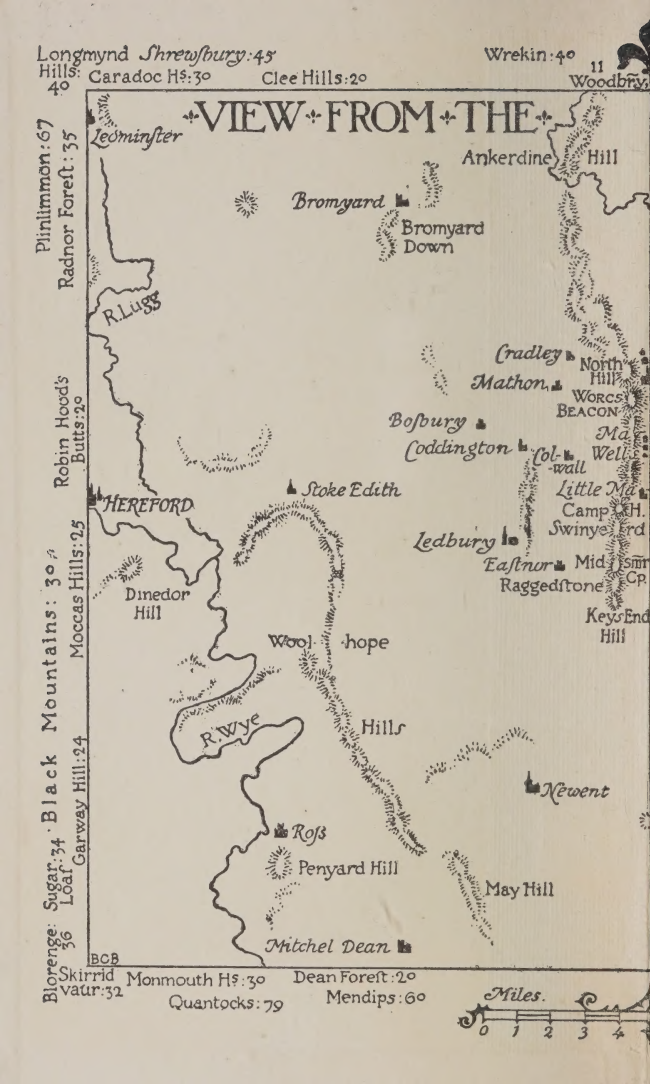
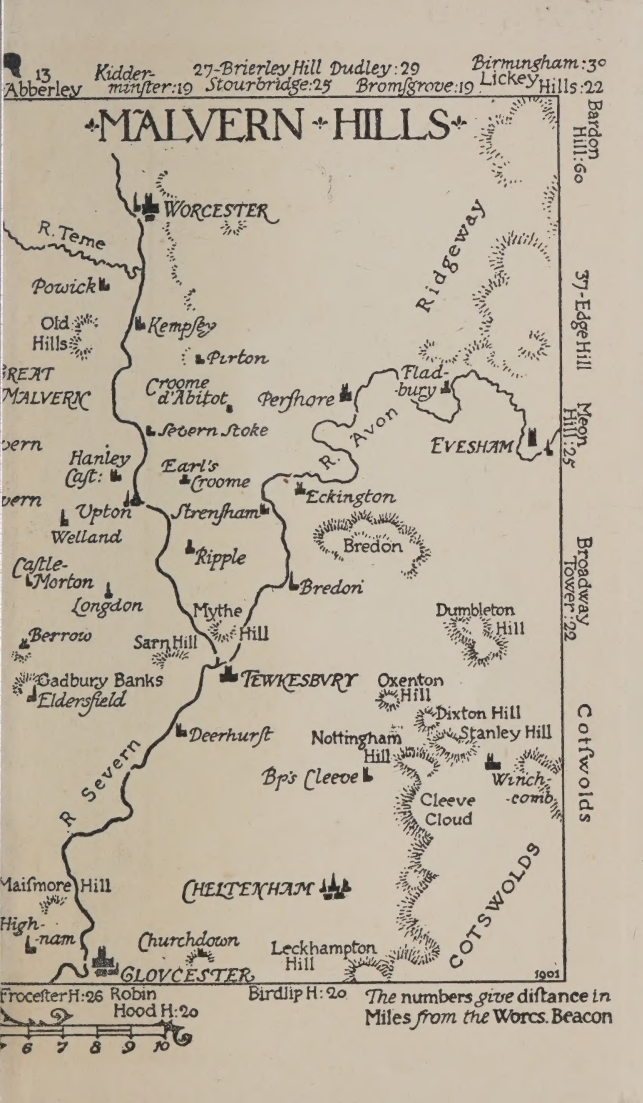
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
3 1761 00278199 5


VIEW FROM THE
Longmynd Shrewsbury: 45
Hills: 40
Caradoc Hs: 30
Clee Hills: 20
Wrekin: 40
Woodbury
Leominster
Ankerdine Hill
Bromyard
Bromyard Down
Plinlimmon: 67
Radnor Forest: 35
R. Lugg
Cradley
North Hills
Mathon
Worcs Beacon
Bosbury
Coddington
Tol-wall
Little Ma
Camp
Swinyard
Robin Hood's Butts: 20
HEREFORD
Stoke Edith
Ledbury
Eastnor
Mid
Raggedstone
Dinedor Hill
Moccas Hills: 25
Black Mountains: 30
Wool hope
Keys End Hill
R. Wye
Hills
Newent
Sugar Loaf: 34
Garway Hill: 24
Ross
Penyard Hill
May Hill
Mitchel Dean
BCB
Blorenge: 36
Skirrid vaur: 32
Monmouth Hs: 30
Dean Forest: 20
Quantocks: 79
Mendips: 60
Miles.
0 1 2 3 4


13 Abberley
Kidder-minster:19
27-Brierley Hill
Stourbridge:25
Dudley:29
Bromsgrove:19
Birmingham:30
Lickey Hills:22
MALVERN HILLS
Bardon Hill:60
37-Edge Hill
Meon Hill:25
Broadway Tower:22
Cotswolds
R. Teme
Powick
Old Hills
Kempsey
Pirton
Croome d'Abitot
Severn Stoke
Hanley Castle
Earl's Croome
Upton
Welland
Castle-Morton
Longdon
Berrow
Sarn Hill
Gadbury Banks
Eldersfield
Deerhurst
R Severn
Maismore
High-nam
Churchdown
GLOVCESTER
Froceſter H:26
Robin Hood H:20
Birdlip H:20
WORCESTER
Ridgeway
Perſhore
Flad-bury
R. Avon
EVESHAM
Strensham
Ripple
Eckington
Bredon
Bredon
Mythe
Hill
TEWKESBVRY
Oxenton Hill
Dumbleton Hill
Dixton Hill
Stanley Hill
Nottingham Hill
Bp's Cleeve
Winch-comb
Cleeve Cloud
CHELTENHAM
COTSWOLDS
Leckhampton Hill
1901
The numbers give distance in Miles from the Worcs. Beacon
5
6
7
8
9
10

THE MALVERN COUNTRY

THE LITTLE GUIDES

CAMBRIDGE AND ITS COLLEGES
OXFORD AND ITS COLLEGES
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
THE TEMPLE
WESTMINSTER ABBEY

THE ENGLISH LAKES
THE MALVERN COUNTRY
SHAKESPEARE'S COUNTRY
SNOWDONIA

BEDFORDSHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE
BERKSHIRE
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
THE CHANNEL ISLANDS
CHESHIRE
CORNWALL
CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND
DERBYSHIRE
DEVON
DORSET
DURHAM
ESSEX
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
HAMPSHIRE
HEREFORDSHIRE
HERTFORDSHIRE
THE ISLE OF WIGHT
KENT
LANCASHIRE
LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND
LINCOLNSHIRE
LONDON
MIDDLESEX
MONMOUTHSHIRE
NORFOLK
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
NORTHUMBERLAND
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
OXFORDSHIRE
SHROPSHIRE
SOMERSET
STAFFORDSHIRE
SUFFOLK
SURREY
SUSSEX
THE EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
THE NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
WARWICKSHIRE
WILTSHIRE
WORCESTERSHIRE

NORTH WALES
SOUTH WALES
KERRY
BRITTANY
NORMANDY
ROME
SICILY

The Camp Hill

HE
W765 4m

THE MALVERN COUNTRY

By

SIR BERTRAM C. A. WINDLE

D. SC., F. R. S., F. S. A.

With Illustrations by

EDMUND . H . NEW

AND FROM PHOTOGRAPHS AND A PLAN

"The Vale of Severn, Nature's garden wide,
By the blue steeps of distant Malvern wall'd."
—DYER

341826
23. 9. 37.

LONDON
METHUEN & CO. LTD.
36 *Essex St. Strand*

Third Edition

DA
690
M3W5
1923

First Published . . *May* 1901
Second Edition . . *May* 1916
Third Edition . . . *March* 1923

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

To

MY OLD FRIEND

JOHN HUMPHREYS, F.L.S

PREFACE

THIS little book, it is hoped, may afford such historical and architectural information about Malvern and the many places of interest which can be visited therefrom as is likely to be of value to residents in and visitors to the locality. It would be impossible for the writer to mention all the books from which he has gleaned information for these pages. He will, therefore, content himself with expressing his acknowledgments to the authors whose names have been mentioned in different parts of the book, and particularly to those responsible for the works which have appeared in the admirable series published by Messrs Bell & Sons, namely, "Worcester" by Mr Strange, "Hereford" by Mr Fisher, and "Tewkesbury and Deerhurst" by Mr Massé. To these excellent manuals, to Mr Blunt's "Tewkesbury Abbey," and to Dr Grindrod's "Malvern," the writer most gratefully admits his indebtedness for information and for some of his quotations. Mr Humphrey Watts has been good enough to

read through the manuscript; and to his intimate knowledge of architecture, and particularly that of the Midland Counties, the writer is indebted for many valuable notes and suggestions, and especially for the passage relating to the Chapter-House at Worcester Cathedral. Mr New's charming illustrations must not be passed over without a word of thanks for the trouble which he has taken to carry out the writer's wishes.

BIRMINGHAM, *Jan. 28, 1901*

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	The Malvern Hills–Topography–Geology–Botany	1
II.	The Seven Malverns–Malvern Link–North Malvern–West Malvern–Malvern Wells–Little Malvern–Great Malvern Priory – Little Malvern Priory and Court	23
III.	Worcester–History of the City–The Battle of Worcester	46
IV.	Worcester Cathedral – Other Churches and Buildings in the City	67
V.	From Malvern to Hereford–Ledbury – Stoke-Edith – History of Hereford	100
VI.	Hereford–The Cathedral–Other Objects of Interest in the City	125

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
VII.	TEWKESBURY—HISTORY OF THE TOWN AND ABBEY—THE ABBEY—OTHER BUILDINGS	152
VIII.	DEERHURST—PERSHORE . . .	191
IX.	BREDON HILL AND THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES	208

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS, MAPS AND PLANS

PAGE

PLAN OF VIEW FROM MALVERN HILLS *Front Cover*

THE CAMP HILL . . . *Frontispiece*
(*By permission of Messrs Catherall & Prichard, Ltd., Chester*)

MALVERN FROM THE BEACON HILL . 1
(*From a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

THE MALVERN HILLS . . . 10
(*From a Photograph by Messrs J. Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee*)

WORCESTER BEACON 14
(*From a Photograph by Messrs J. Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee*)

GREAT MALVERN PRIORY CHURCH . 23
(*After a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

GREAT MALVERN PRIORY CHURCH (INTERIOR) 30
(*From a Photograph by Messrs J. Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee*)

LITTLE MALVERN CHURCH AND COURT 46
(*By permission of Messrs Catherall & Prichard, Ltd., Chester*)

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL FROM THE N.W. 67
(*After a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

THE CHOIR, WORCESTER CATHEDRAL . 70
(*From a Photograph by Messrs J. Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee*)

PRINCE ARTHUR'S CHANTRY, WORCESTER CATHEDRAL 80
(*After a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

THE GUILDHALL, WORCESTER . . 96
(*From a Photograph by Messrs J. Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee*)

PAGE

LEDBURY 100
(*By permission of Messrs Catherall & Prichard, Ltd., Chester*)

HEREFORD 105
(*From a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL 125
(*After a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

HIGHTOWN, HEREFORD 151
(*From a Photograph by Messrs J. Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee*)

TEWKESBURY ABBEY CHURCH . . . 152
(*After a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

THE CHOIR, TEWKESBURY ABBEY . 168
(*From a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

THE WARWICK CHANTRY, TEWKESBURY ABBEY CHURCH 170
(*After a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

TOMB OF SIR HUGH LE DESPENSER, TEWKESBURY ABBEY 185
(*From a Photograph by Messrs J. Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee*)

OLD TIMBER HOUSE, RECENTLY UNCOVERED, TEWKESBURY . . 191
(*By permission of Mr D. Gwynne, Tewkesbury*)

PRECONQUEST WORK IN CHURCH, DEERHURST 196
(*From a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

SAXON CHAPEL, DEERHURST . . . 198
(*After a Photograph by Messrs F. Frith & Co., Ltd., Reigate*)

PERSHORE BRIDGE 208

MALVERN FROM THE BEACON HILL

CHAPTER I

THE MALVERN HILLS

HISTORY — TOPOGRAPHY — GEOLOGY — BOTANY

NO traveller through the western Midland counties of England can fail to have been struck by the Malvern Hills. Whether viewed from the opposite Cotswold range, from the mountains of the neighbouring border of Wales or from the low-lying country in their own immediate district, the beauty of their outline, the splendour of their colour, the boldness with which they rise from the plain at their foot at once attract the eye and compel the admiration. But the finest view of the range is to be obtained, on some clear day in early autumn, from Bredon Hill, standing nearly midway between Malvern and Cotswold. He who climbs to the camp on the summit of Bredon and takes his stand near the Bambury Stone, fruitful in archæological excurses, will be rewarded by a view not easily to be matched in a district rich in pleasant prospects. Below lies a flat tract of country, the floor of that ancient sea which Sir Roderick Murchison christened the "Severn Straits," and on its opposite side are the Malvern Hills, the

western boundary of that narrow piece of water in which Bredon itself was an island and of which the opposite shore was formed by the steep escarpment of the Cotswolds. When the Glacial epoch was drawing to a close, Mr Symonds tells us, these beautiful vales were filled with the rolling waters of a marine strait and with a strong current setting southward, one might have sailed from the mouth of the Severn to the estuary of the Dee, and landed on the islands of Robin's Wood Hill, with the salt waves washing above the site of Gloucester, and against the island of Bredon, with the waters high above Worcester and Tewkesbury. A little to the east of Sarnhill, near Tewkesbury, there is another small hill which stands in the lands which Edmund Bonner, Bishop of London, "did change with the King for lands in Essex," the summit of which is capped with the Northern Drift at the height of two hundred feet above the sea, and from this drift Mr Dowdeswell has obtained the remains of the Mammoth and Long-haired Rhinoceros, which, with other evidences along the ancient coast-line of Malvern, tell us that those animals were living here in England during the high-level drift period, and during the marine period of the Severn straits, as well as during the low-level drift period and the subsequent great river period. Away, too, to the west, on the hills above Hasfield and Hartpury, on Limbury, Catsbury and Gadbury, all vale hills, these tell-tale drifts rest, and on Limbury especially, they are charged with boulders borne

by ice-rafts from the Silurian rocks of Ledbury and Ankerdine. We are now sure from the revelations of these drift deposits, and others that belong to the same period, that the voyager over the Severn Straits would, if he had landed on the coast of the Malverns and the then island of Wales and Siluria on one side, or the Cotswolds on the other, have seen the Mammoth and long-haired Rhinoceros, with Irish Elks and Reindeer, feeding upon Arctic plants and shrubs, of which a few only are left upon our mountain-tops to tell us what once was here. With them, too, were the Cave Lion, Hyæna, and Cave Bear, which, in many a cave of western England, have mingled their remains with those of the Herbivora, on which they preyed. With these, too, were the wild hunter race of men, contemporary with the Mammoth, whose rude stone implements have been discovered in caves together with the bones of the beasts of races long extinct, which were their neighbours in the land. The changes which have taken place in the Malvern district during geological time have indeed been most extensive and remarkable, but their full consideration must be postponed to a later page. In early historic times much of the range of hills was covered by woods, for Malvern was one of the four forests of Worcestershire, which were, as Nash puts it, "certain portions of woody grounds and fruitful pastures, privileged for wild beasts and fowls of forest, chase and warren, to rest and abide, in the safe protection of the king for his princely

pleasure." "Malvern," he proceeds, "was given by king Edward I. to Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, on the marriage of his daughter Joan d'Acres; and it falling thus into the hands of a subject forthwith lost the name of a forest and became a *Chase*; which is said to be a place of receipt for deer and wild beasts: of a middle nature between a forest and a park, for, properly speaking, a forest cannot be in the hand of a subject, none being able to make a lord chief justice in Eyre but the king. A chase also differs from a park, in that it is not enclosed, and is of a larger extent, and hath more variety of game, more keepers, and more officers." In Leland's time the chase in which, as he tells us, both Great and Little Malvern were set, was about twenty miles in length, though not all the hills were occupied by it. Some relics of this afforested condition may still be found in the trees upon Midsummer Hill, and in the stunted but very ancient thorn trees which stud the side of the hill above Malvern Wells. Mr Lees counted more than three hundred rings of annual growth in the trunk of one of these which had been accidentally felled, yet, this tree had not half the thickness of the greater number of its fellows. Another relic is to be met with in the name of one of the most southern of the hills, Keys End as it is now called, a corruption of Cas or Chase End, which hill marks the southern limit of the ancient forest. The Malvern chain is very narrow in comparison with its height, and the gradient of the hills

is, therefore, correspondingly steep. Its total length is about eight miles, its breadth is everywhere less than one mile, and more often less than half a mile, and its highest point, the Worcestershire Beacon, is 1395 feet above the sea level according to the Ordnance Survey. Within this narrow base area, there are about twenty summits, which are arranged in one or two longitudinal rows. Between them lie hollows and passes through which the various roads crossing the range find their way. Starting from the northern end the first of these summits is the North Hill, which separates Great from West Malvern, and is of a more rocky nature than any of the other peaks. On the side of the next eminence, the Worcester Beacon, is a spring known as St Anne's Well, a reminder of the time when Malvern was celebrated as the scene of the great cold-water cure, now some fifty years ago. There were several rival establishments for hydropathic treatment, and its most famous exponent was Dr Gully, the father of the Speaker of the present House of Commons, whose treatment is represented as saving the life of Mr Eden in Charles Reade's novel of "It Is Never Too Late To Mend," where Dr Gully is introduced under the name of Dr Gulson. There is an amusing account of Malvern at this period and of the cold-water treatment in a now almost forgotten book, entitled "Three Weeks in Wet Sheets; Being the Diary and Doings of a Moist Visitor to Malvern," which in its time ran through at

least six editions. From this it appears that it was a part of the treatment for the patients to wander about the hills and drink frequently and copiously from the various springs and streams which they encountered on their way. The dress and equipment of the female pilgrims in search of health must have been, as "the Moist Man" remarks, "peculiar if not picturesque. Bound over and immediately in front of their bonnets, were those blue silk calashes or shades which are known in the place, and perhaps elsewhere, by the popular name of 'uglies.' In one hand they carried a flat Graffenberg tumbler for the purpose of drinking water at every road or mountain rill they came to, while in the other they stoutly clutched a tall ash staff, some six feet long, with a sharp iron spike at the end." St Anne's Well was a great place of resort for the water drinkers. "The water itself," again to quote from the Moist Man, "which dribbles away into a carved stone basin at the rate of about a glass a minute, through a kind of penny whistle placed in the mouth of a pleasant dolphin, is quaffed by crowds in a little house which is half a pedlar's shop and half a pump-room, attached to a cottage where knives and forks are hired out to tourists, and kidneys surreptitiously grilled between meals for hungry patients under water treatment. Here, too, a German band, supported by subscription, plays every morning at eight, when invalids slowly imbibe the pure element to an andante of Haydn's, or toss off tumblers from the 'sacred rill' to a Pot-Pourri of Donizetti, or the

measured time of the Presburgh Polka." The Worcester Beacon is the highest pinnacle of the range, and attains, as has been already said, a height of 1395 feet. From its summit, as indeed from any of the peaks, an extraordinarily expansive view is to be obtained both to the east and the west. On the former side are the flat plains, bounded on the opposite horizon by the ridge of the Cotswold, and broken up by Bredon Hill and other eminences of a lesser altitude. On the west the country is much more hilly and the scenery perhaps more beautiful, though the great expanse of flat and fertile plain on the opposite side is not without its own peculiar charm.

The visitor to Malvern will hear the most extraordinary accounts as to the objects which can be seen from the top of the Hills, yet it would be difficult to say that, given the perfect day for a view, and that does not come often, these statements are very greatly exaggerated. The present writer has once, out of many scores of visits to the spot, obtained from the top of Broadway Hill a view of Malvern so wonderfully distinct that it seemed almost possible, at the distance of twenty miles, to identify every house with the naked eye. Once also he obtained an almost equally wonderful view from the Malverns, but the atmospheric conditions which favour such an opportunity do not very often occur. However, there seems no doubt that given favourable conditions parts of at least fifteen counties in England and Wales, and perhaps even of two or three more, may come into

sight. To the north, the characteristic and unmistakable hump of the Wrekin is nearly the limit, to the south the Mendips, to the west possibly Plinlimmon, and to the east Bardon Hill, a part of Charnwood Forest in Leicestershire. Three cathedrals—Worcester, Hereford and Gloucester; six of the great religious houses of Catholic days—Evesham, Tewkesbury, Pershore, Great and Little Malvern, and Deerhurst; and six also of the great battle-fields of English history—Evesham, Worcester, Tewkesbury, Edge Hill, Shrewsbury, and Mortimer's Cross; such are some of the objects included in the prospect presented from almost any of the higher Malvern Peaks. The next noticeable point along the range is the narrow pass of the Wyche, cut through the rock about the middle of the nineteenth century, and leading through the rather dirty little village of the same name to Colwall on the Herefordshire side. The Wyche itself is one of many places in the locality which apparently derive their name from that of the Hwiccii, the Anglo-Saxon inhabitants of this district, whose bishop Theodore set at Worcester. Or according to other authorities the name has a less local significance, and is simply the Saxon word wic, a settlement or village. By the side of the modern road is an older and steeper way, known as the Pig's or Pix Path, and no doubt taking its name, like some other spots here, and elsewhere in England, from the pixies or fairies. Beyond this are the hills above the Wells, with their ancient thorn

trees, to which attention has previously been drawn. On the side of this hill is the Holy Well, perhaps the most celebrated of the Malvern springs, though the reason for its name has been forgotten. It is alluded to in Butler's "Breviary of the Eyes," printed in 1622 as follows:—

> "A little more I'll of their curing tell,
> How they help sore eyes with a new found wel.
> Great speach of Malvern-hills was late reported.
> Unto which spring people in troops resorted."

This spring, according to Nash, had been "long used with great success, particularly in disorders of the eyes, scrophulous cases, old ulcers, leprosies, and other diseases of the skin." The same writer gives *in extenso* a long and quaint ballad in praise of this spring, from which two or three verses may be quoted. It appears to date from the time of James I.

> "Out of that famous hill
> There daily springeth
> A water, passing still
> Which always bringeth
> Great comfort to all them
> That are diseased men,
> And makes them well again,
> To praise the Lord.
> Hast thou a wound to heal,
> The which doth grieve thee?
> Come then unto this well,
> It will relieve thee;
> *Noli me tangeres*,
> And other maladies,
> Have here their remedies,
> Prais'd be the Lord.

To drink thy waters, store
  Lie in thy bushes,
Many with ulcers sore,
  Many with bruises;
Who succour find from ill,
By money given still,
Thanks to the Christian will:
  O praise the Lord.
A thousand bottles there,
  Were filled weekly,
And many costrils rare
  For stomachs sickly;
Some of them into Kent,
Some were to London sent,
Others to Berwick went,
  O praise the Lord."

The old Well-House, an edifice of the later Georgian period, was once a Hotel, and for a time a Hydropathic establishment.

Beyond this point a trench, running in the long axis of the range, separates the counties of Worcester and Hereford, and is known as the Shire Ditch. The hills are next crossed by the main road between Upton and Ledbury, which passes an inn called the British Camp. To the north of this is a peak, known as Wind's Point, and under this, hidden in a hollow of the hill, is the house formerly occupied by Madame Jenny Lind, whose body lies buried in the cemetery at Great Malvern. This road leads to a very steep descent, dangerous to cyclists, called Chance's Pitch. On the Hereford side of the hill are some fields of daffodils, in which, at the proper season, thousands of these flowers may be seen

THE MALVERN HILLS

"at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance."

To the south of the road is the great Herefordshire Beacon, crowned with one of the finest British camps in England. Like many others, its construction is assigned to that celebrated chieftain known to school-children as Caractacus, whose proper name, however, according to Principal Rhŷs, was something much more like Caratâcos. Whether he really was responsible for its construction can never be known, but it is exceedingly probable that he may have occupied it at some time during his struggle with the Roman legions. The entrenchments are very extensive, though the area of the citadel or highest part is but small. The county ditch runs on its eastern side, so that the camp itself is in Herefordshire. Nash, quoting from a MS. in Jesus College Library, Oxford, states, that "within the distance of a musket shot of the trenches of the camp in the parish of Colwall in Herefordshire, was found, in the year 1650, by Thomas Tayler, near Burstner's Cross, as he was digging a ditch round his cottage, a coronet, or bracelet of gold, set with precious stones, of a size to be drawn over the arm and sleeve. It was sold to Mr Hill, a goldsmith in Gloucester, for £37; Hill sold it to a jeweller in Lombard-Street, London, for £250, and the jeweller sold the stones which were deeply inlaid for £1500, as Mr Clough of Lombard-street reported."

Beyond the camp is a cave, hewn from the solid rock, which the Ordnance map calls Clutter's Cave. It is also known as the Hermit's Cave. Close by is a spring called Walm's Well, which may have supplied the camp with water, and was certainly used in much later times for bathing purposes by those afflicted with cutaneous diseases. There used at one time to be a shed here for the convenience of these persons, but it has now long disappeared. From the camp may be seen the reservoir from which Malvern obtains its supply of water. The eminence to the east of the well is Hangman's Hill, and the next beyond is Swinyerd or Swineherd's Hill, a name which has come down from the days when some Gurth of the period tended his master's swine in the forest of Malvern. The Gullet is a hollow which separates this hill from the next, and here an obelisk will be seen to the west within the limits of Eastnor Park. This monument was erected by the first Earl Somers in memory of his son Colonel Cox, who fell at the siege of Burgos.[1] The hill beyond the Gullet is the Hollybush. It has two peaks, both included in lines of en-

[1] Near the Obelisk Hill are the very scanty remains of a small fortress, named Bronsil Castle, which is attributed to the fourteenth century. An inner moat, with traces of an outer one, still exists. There is a story told about this castle and a certain Beauchamp, its owner, who, departing to the Crusades, buried his treasure in the moat, that it might not be wasted in his absence. In case of his not returning alive, he consoled those whom he left behind by telling them that,

trenchment. The eastern summit is called Midsummer Hill, and this name is generally given to the Camp, the more important part being there situated. The earthworks of this fortification are very numerous. A part of the shire ditch is here called the Red Earl's Dyke, and reminds us that it was cut by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, who, as already mentioned, married the daughter of Edward I. and received the Forest of Malvern as her dowry. The dyke was cut to mark off his possessions from those of the Bishop of Hereford, and on its completion the Red Earl is said to have sworn that he would cut off the right hand of any adherent of the Bishop whom he found on the Malvern side of the trench in chase of hart or stag. The hills are now crossed by the main road between Tewkesbury and Ledbury, on the southern side of which is the Raggedstone Hill, double-peaked like its northern neighbour. Connected with this hill there is an ancient legend which narrates that a monk of Little Malvern was condemned as a penance for some sin to climb daily, no matter what the weather, to the summit

as soon as his bones were buried, the treasure would at once fall into the hands of the rightful heir. Meantime it would be watched over by a familiar spirit under the guise of a raven. The story goes on to relate that, through some mishap, all the bones were not brought home, for the knight died abroad, or if they were brought home, they were not all buried, and as a consequence the treasure has never been recovered, though there are those who say that the raven still is on guard.

of this hill on his hands and knees. In his misery he laid his curse upon any person on whom the shadow of the hill might fall. Amongst the persons on whom the shadow and its attendant curse have fallen is said to have been Cardinal Wolsey, as will be more particularly related in connection with Birtsmorton Court. The next pass through the hills is known as the White-Leaved Oak, from a tree of that character which once flourished here. At this point the three counties of Gloucester, Worcester and Hereford meet, and the next and last hill of the range is in the first-mentioned, from which fact it is sometimes called the Gloucester Beacon, though its proper name is Keys-End or Chase-End.

Having briefly touched upon the chief points in connection with the topography of the Malvern Range, it will now be necessary to say something about its geology and natural history, and these points have been purposely held over to the end of the chapter so that those who care for none of these things can skip what is to follow. The present writer, having no pretensions to any other than an outline knowledge of geology, is not going to try to write an account of this difficult part of his subject himself, and therefore will now present to his readers the sketch of the geology of the Malvern Hills, which was read to the Worcester Naturalists' Club by Mr Spackman in 1896, since it seems to him to give a very clear and intelligible account of such points as any visitor,

WORCESTER BEACON

not a specialist, might desire to know. For those who desire to delve deeper into the matter there are Murchison's "Siluria," Philipp's writings in the Geological Survey, Symonds' "Severn Straits" and "Old Stones," and many papers and notes in the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society and the Transactions of the Worcester Naturalists' Club.

These hills, says Mr Spackman, although not quite as we know them to-day, have stood throughout vast periods of geological time—a range as old, and as little altered by the flight of ages, as any in the country. It is probable that the elevatory movement which raised them into their present position was not altogether completed until after the deposition of much of the New Red rocks, but during the Ordovician period, when the rest of England and Wales, except a small part of Anglesea, and the greater part of Scotland and Ireland, were submerged beneath the sea, it is quite possible that these hills formed part of the southern border of an irregular island. In Llandovery times, although much smaller and altered in shape, the shores of the Malvern island were laved by the Silurian sea. In evidence of this we have the ancient shingle beds and sandy beaches now forming extensive beds of conglomerate and sandstone. From Howler's Heath in the south, these beds run in a line through Eastnor Park, Stump's Wood, New's Wood and the Gullet. Thence from the north of the Herefordshire Beacon in a continuous tract past the Wyche, the Worcestershire Beacon, and

away to Storridge and Knightsford Bridge, where a great downthrow fault brings the New Red sandstone against the Silurian beds. Surrounding the Malvern Hills, at the time, was a coral reef, the remains of which can be seen in the road below the Wyche, and indeed can be traced in a continuous line, with reversed dip in many places, superimposed upon the Llandovery. The evidence then goes to show that the Malvern Island was subsiding gradually in a tranquil sea. The Silurian series of shales and limestone are from two to three thousand feet thick, and while conglomerates and sandstones point to conditions in which shallow water prevailed, and testify to the near proximity of land, much of the shales and limestones must have been formed in deep water far removed from land. On the eastern side of the Malvern Hills the Silurian beds are covered over by New Red deposits, and the width of their eastern extension is not known. Wenlock shales have been found, however, below the Cretaceous rocks in the deep boring at Ware, near Hertford, but how far beyond Ware these beds really extend is only a matter of conjecture. The land tracts from which the materials of the beds were obtained existed somewhere to the westward, and as the sea-bed rose towards the close of the period, we find the shales passing into and being superseded by sandy flags and flagstones. During the next period—the Devonian—great geological changes took place, and the greater part of Britain was elevated into dry land. An arm of the sea then covered the eastern half

of Wales and Shropshire, and the Malverns formed the western boundary of a bay, which opened out of the Old Red Sandstone Sea, beneath which the whole of the south of England was submerged. In the Lower Carboniferous period, when the greater part of the high land of Devonian time was submerged, these hills were part of the elongated promontory of an island which embraced the greater part of Wales and the Irish Sea. The periods during which the coal forests flourished were peaceful, but disturbances heralded the advent of the Permian. The faulted upheavals which formed the backbone of England—the Pennine Chain—date from this time, as do also all the disturbances which formed the lake-like basins of coal. The effects of a boisterous sea are observable in this neighbourhood, northward at Knightwick, and southward at Haffield and Howler's Heath, where the Breccias bear testimony to the battering of the beds, which, with the Malverns, then formed the western coast-line of the great Diassic Sea, the waters of which covered the counties of Worcester, Warwick and Stafford, and stretched northward to the Firth of Clyde. In the further changes which followed in Triassic times, the Malverns still constituted part of the western coast-line of the Keuper Sea, by which a great part of the country was covered. The Liassic Sea, which followed, was not unlike the Triassic in outline, and this also apparently came up to the foot of the Malverns; but in the succeeding period, that is, from the Cretaceous period on-

wards, the sea commenced its eastward retreat, leaving the Malvern range high and dry, to be wrought into final shape by the ceaseless disintegrating agencies of the atmosphere. The scenery of the hills is due to many causes. In looking from the summit of the hills eastward, it will be seen that the country stretches away in a plain right across the vale of the Severn to the Cotswold Hills, its continuity being broken only by the Bredon outlier.

This has been brought about by the New Red beds retaining their horizontal position when the great fracture occurred which runs in a continuous line from Newent, some six miles to the south of the extreme end of the chain and right away to Abberley in the north. The New Red beds were let down without a fold or fracture, and in great Malvern, at the back of the Belle Vue Hotel, the Bunter sandstone remains *in situ*, and shows the downthrow to have been at least equal to the thickness of the Keuper Marls. Looking westward, the scene is entirely changed. Here we see ridge beyond ridge, stretching right away to the Old Red sandstones of Herefordshire, and the beds which constitute the ridges standing on end, or rather dipping at an angle of about 45 degrees to the west. We have already seen that these beds once continuously extended eastwards at least as far as Hertfordshire; but what has become of the missing parts which originally extended from the broken ends of the ridges on the west to the strata which lie buried beneath the New Red

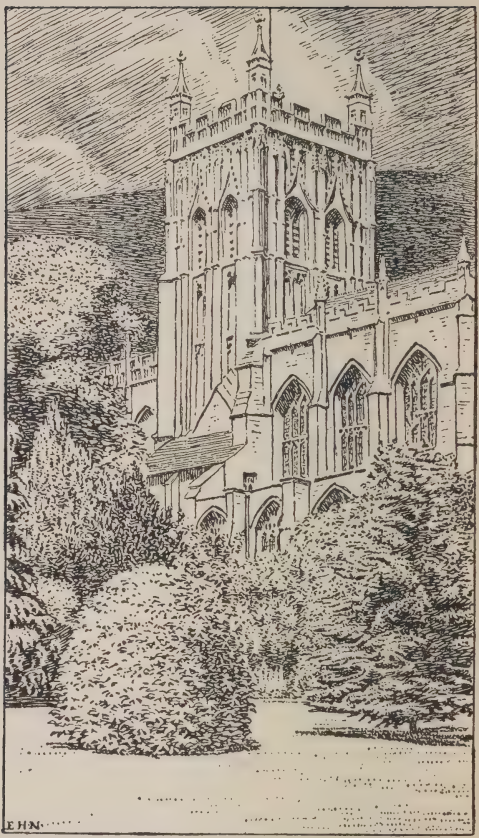
rocks on the east? It requires a distinct effort of the mind to realize that the materials of these beds—broken through as they were by the uprising of the Malvern chain, and tilted on end, and, as we have seen in the reversed dip of the Woolhope, turned right over—has been altogether removed by sub-aerial agencies. And yet such is the fact. And while wooded ridges, which are of limestone, have offered great resistance to denudation and remained prominent in the landscape, the intervening shales have been scooped into valleys, and the detritus carried away. Of the various beds which constitute the Silurian series, the Llandovery rocks have been already alluded to. Running in a line parallel with them throughout their entire course, occur the Woolhope limestones—the ancient coral reef—a series of rocks from 10 to 150 feet thick, made up of impure limestones, somewhat argillaceous and more or less nodular in its aggregation. Next in the succeeding order occur the Wenlock shales, the course of which may be traced in the long valley between the more or less wooded hills. Beyond the shales crop up the Wenlock limestones, forming the narrow wooded ridge by which the valley in the shales is bounded. In a further ridge beyond the Wenlock series—a hollow between marking the course of the Lower Ludlow shales — the Aymestry limestone is exposed, and no rock in the Malvern district is more conspicuous, nor, for that matter, more difficult to trace. Then follow the Upper Ludlow shales and Downton

sandstones, and with them the Silurian beds pass upward into the Old Red sandstones. Now the Silurian beds, it will be seen, constitute parallel hills and vales, the hard and soft rocks alternating; but in districts like that overlooking the Worcestershire Beacon, and at Eastnor, where the beds have been upheaved into an anticline and eroded, the number of alternating hills and dales is very much increased. The normal number of ridges—that is when no flexures occur to multiply exposures of the same bed—is three: Woolhope, Wenlock and Aymestry; and there are three vales, which occur respectively in the Wenlock, Lower Ludlow and Upper Ludlow shales. But each bed passes by a natural gradation into the bed next above it—the limestone becomes argillaceous and finally passes into a shale, while the shale in its turn becomes calcareous and passes into a limestone. Each bed assumes gradually its own characteristics before finally becoming pronounced, and there is no perceptible break anywhere, from the lowest to the highest beds. Now it follows that if these beds, lying as they do parallel to the main axis of the hills, should be intersected by any road running westward, and at right angles to the hills, such road must necessarily cut across each bed in succession, and this really happens in the case of the Purlieu Lane. The new road from Colwall to the Westminster road also cuts across the beds, but obliquely, and passes over, in descending order, all the beds from the Lower Ludlow shales to the Upper Llandovery sand-

stone. As to the hills themselves, that is the main central mass, whose upheaval has constituted the chain, these, says Dr Grindrod, are of igneous origin, and mainly consist of Diorite, being composed of quartz, felspar, hornblende and mica (secondary); but the rocks present many varieties in different places, ranging from Diabase to nearly true Granite. Other minerals also occur, notably the rich green Chlorite, well seen at the Wyche cutting. Some of the rocks have a certain appearance of bedding, and this is perhaps best seen on the road to the Wyche, and also on the road to the Wind's Point, above Little Malvern Priory.

The lover of natural objects will find himself very much assisted in his rambles about Malvern and the neighbourhood, if he is able to procure a work entitled, "Pictures of Nature Round Malvern," and written by the late Mr Edwin Lees, a book not now always to be had when wanted. In following this as a botanical guide, however, the observer will have to remember that things have been a good deal altered since Mr Lees wrote, partly by the increase in cultivation and occupation of the land, partly by the ravages of that selfish tribe of collectors which regards it as a blemish on its character if a single specimen of a rare plant is left in its habitat. Thus the Oak Fern and Yellow Star of Bethlehem, which used to exist in the neighbourhood, have, according to Dr Grindrod, been entirely exterminated, and several rare orchids and other flowers and ferns are going

their way, so that he, very wisely, declines to mention where their habitat is. Suffice it to say that the genuine field-botanist, and especially the lichenologist and fungologist, will find plenty to interest him in his excursions around the Malvern Hills and the adjacent country.



GT MALVERN·PRIORY·CHURCH

CHAPTER II

THE SEVEN MALVERNS

GREAT MALVERN — MALVERN LINK — NORTH MALVERN — WEST MALVERN — SOUTH MALVERN — MALVERN WELLS — LITTLE MALVERN — GREAT MALVERN PRIORY — LITTLE MALVERN PRIORY AND COURT

THERE seems little doubt that Malvern derives its name from two Celtic words, of which the first is Moel, a conical hill, a word frequently found in combination with some other as the name of hills in Wales. What the second part of the name Malvern is derived from is not quite so clear, some considering that the last syllable is derived from the word Hafren, which would make the whole name mean The Hill above the Severn; others derive it from Moel-y-Yarn, the Seat of Judgment. Murray thinks that its original form was Moel Vern, the Hill in the Plain, certainly a very natural title. Nash believed that the latter part of the word was Wern, which he translates as alders, the whole name then signifying the hill of the alders. Finally, another writer, Mr Ward of Ross, associated the name with that of Malvhina, a probably

mythical Celtic princess. Without attempting to decide which of these etymological conjectures may be the correct one, it may now be pointed out that there are seven places of the name of Malvern. Some of these require only passing notice; two of them demand much greater attention. The central and most important Malvern is that to which the prefix Great belongs. Here are the most important hotels and shops, and here is the fine Priory Church, to the description of which a further section of this chapter will be devoted. Great Malvern lies some little distance up the hill, and at its foot is Malvern Link, a place requiring no further mention. North Malvern is little more than an extension of the Great Malvern in that direction, and West Malvern may be said to be a prolongation in its direction of North. West Malvern alone amongst the seven commands views of the Herefordshire side, with its beautiful hills and vales. It has the sunsets, often most magnificent, and is bathed in sunshine for an hour or two after its fellows have passed into the earlier stages of twilight. On the other hand, it misses the sunrises, and is in shadow during the earlier morning hours. Each side of the hills has its own votaries, and each has its own peculiar beauties.

Malvern Wells is largely a residential quarter, and lies south of Great Malvern. South Malvern is a name now applied to a part of the district better known as the Wyche, and lying higher up on the hillside than its neighbours.

Little Malvern, the smallest, but not the least interesting of the seven, is the most southerly, and lies on the side of the hill close to the road between Upton and Ledbury.

The history of Great Malvern, at least its early history, like that of so many other towns in this island, is that of its monastic foundation, for of the manor of Malvern there is but little to be said. It originally belonged, as has been stated in the preceding chapter, to Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester. His eldest son, being killed at Bannockburn, the manor passed to his sister Eleanor, the wife of Hugh le Despencer. From this family it passed, again by the distaff side, to Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. His daughter Anne married Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, and being her father's heiress brought the titles and estates with her to her husband. Their daughter Isabel was wife to the unfortunate George, Duke of Clarence, and after his death the manor of Malvern descended to Edward the Fifth. Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Thomas Bromley, then Chancellor of England, and in the Bromley family it remained until 1740, when it passed by purchase into that of Foley.

There is some little doubt as to the first foundation of a religious establishment at Malvern. Tradition states that a certain St Werstan, who was Abbot of Deerhurst, near Tewkesbury, being driven from his own monastery by the Danes, built a cell at Malvern, and there took up his residence. In the clerestory of the

Priory Church, there are certain windows, which will be hereafter more fully described, in which are depicted scenes from the life of St Werstan, who is there denominated "Martir," indeed his martyrdom forms the subject of one of the windows. Leland states that when he visited Malvern, the chapel of St John the Baptist, in which St Werstan suffered martyrdom, stood near to the priory. There is no other record of any such chapel, though it seems pretty certain that there was a small religious edifice on the side of the hill, not far from the greater edifice, which is called, in an old map, St Michael's Chapel. From the windows, just mentioned, it appears that St Werstan was believed to have been directed in the choice of his site by a vision of angels, on which account the dedication to the archangel seems easily to be understood. Whether Leland mistook the name or whether, as was very commonly the case, the Priory Church itself being an example, the chapel had a double ascription, cannot be settled, but it seems probable that this little building, of which all trace has now disappeared, was the edifice originally erected by St Werstan, and the parent of the Great Malvern establishment. To come to more certain facts in connection with the monastery, the Priory Church was founded about 1085 by Aldwyn, its first prior, who, with a band of Benedictine monks from Worcester, was sent there by St Wulstan, the last Anglo-Saxon Bishop of that See. Henry I. endowed the monastery with posses-

sions, and others were assigned to them by the Abbey of Westminster, on which account probably Malvern came to be looked upon as subject to the jurisdiction of that great religious house. There were, however, many disputes on this point between the greater and the lesser establishment, disputes which were eventually referred to Rome, and in the end Malvern became definitely recognised as a cell of Westminster, which church still owns lands in the district, one of the roads near the Wyche owing its name to this fact. At the time of the dissolution of the religious houses, the revenues of Malvern were, according to Dugdale, worth a trifle over three hundred pounds. As happened with so many of its fellows, the fall of this house was not allowed to take place without remonstrance, for Latimer, then Bishop of Worcester, addressed a letter to Henry VIII., in which he begged that an exception might be made in its case, on account of the good character of its inmates, and the benefits which they conferred upon a remote and inaccessible district. The request, however, was not listened to, and the priory was granted to a certain William Pinnocke, who sold it to Sir John Knottesford, whose tomb is now in the church. From him it was purchased by the inhabitants, but not until the Lady Chapel, the cloisters, the south transept, and the domestic buildings, had been pulled down. The Refectory indeed, which must, from what is known of it, have been a singularly beautiful building, continued down to the nineteenth century, when

it was most unfortunately and unnecessarily pulled down. In connection with nearly all religious houses, where a village or town had sprung up under its shadow, there was a secular church for the use of the parishioners, either near to, or actually part of, the monastic church. Malvern was no exception to this rule, and the parish church, dedicated to St Thomas the Apostle, stood at the north-west corner of the churchyard. After the purchase of the Priory Church, which then came into use by the inhabitants of Malvern, the former parish church fell into disuse and disappeared. Near to the Refectory was an interesting relic of monastic times, which has also disappeared, in the shape of a tile-kiln. This is said, but perhaps with scanty foundation in fact, to have come down from Roman times. In any case it was probably the place of manufacture of the tiles in which the Priory Church is still so rich, and of others which are in Worcester Cathedral and Tewkesbury Abbey, and owe their origin to the labours of the Malvern brethren. Amongst the names of persons associated with the priory, there is only one which requires mention here, and that is William Langland or Langley, if indeed, that be the name of the author of that famous poem, in the Midland dialect, the full title of which is "The Vision of William concerning Piers the Plowman, together with Vita de Do-wel, Do-bet, et Do-best secundum Wit et Resoun," commonly known as "The Vision of Piers Plowman." The author of this work

was born somewhere about 1332, and appears to have been educated at Malvern, or to have had some connection with that place, for his vision commences with a statement that it was seen "on a May morning on Malvern Hills." He was a clerk, but having married early, never advanced beyond minor orders, and could never have been, as some accounts relate, a monk of Malvern Priory. But, as one of its probable scholars, his name must not be forgotten in connection with the history of the priory.

Viewed externally, the Priory Church appears to be wholly of the fifteenth century, and the interior has to be visited to see the Norman work of its original builder, Aldwyn. It is possible that a fall of the tower may have led to the rebuilding of the outer fabric of the church, but in any case this actually did take place during the best portion of the Perpendicular period. The Perpendicular additions were made by the distinguished architect, Sir Reginald Bray, whose figure may be seen in the great window of the north transept, behind the celebrated figure of Prince Arthur. He was also the architect of Henry VII.'s Chapel at Westminster, St George's Chapel, Windsor, and King's Chapel, Cambridge, and his name is inseparably connected with the system of fan-vaulting. The church has been recently restored, and the north porch rebuilt. An inscription on this part of the church states that it was "rebuilt with new stonework, but strictly according to the original design," but then one is not obliged to believe everything that one sees in print, even if

it happens to be in or on a church. The tower is a fine example of what was almost always the finest and most characteristic feature of a Perpendicular church. It has the closest resemblance in every detail, except the pinnacles, to its great prototype, the tower at Gloucester Cathedral, which had been erected fifty years earlier. The Malvern tower has one stage instead of two, and is of course narrower, but thus affords a good example of mediæval copying. The Lady Chapel was originally at the east end of the building, and seems to have been separated from it by a short space traversed by a passage of communication as is the case at Gloucester. It was almost certainly Perpendicular, but the remains of two Transition Norman doors, which originally communicated with the chancel aisles, seem to point to the existence of an earlier Lady Chapel on this spot, probably superseded by a later edifice when the rebuilding of the main fabric took place. Though the exterior is purely fifteenth century, the interior presents many examples of Norman architecture. The pillars of the nave belong to this period, and are of a simple character, only one presenting any appearance of ornamentation. The lower masonry of the tower, the line of the old apse and the body of the south nave aisle belong to the same period. In the latter is still to be seen the door which led into the cloisters, and it was probably the existence of this appendage to the church which led to the north aisle remaining unmolested when its fellow

GREAT MALVERN PRIORY CHURCH

was rebuilt. The east window is particularly worthy of note, indeed it would be difficult to name a more beautiful example of the Perpendicular period in any church in the land. The old stalls, twenty-four in number—some modern ones have been added—are equally good examples of the woodwork of this period. Each, as usual, possesses a carving on its under surface and all these are worthy of study, particularly that representing a sick man in bed, with attendants, and another in which three rats are hanging a cat. There are a few tombs which should also be noted. In the chancel is the tomb of John Knottesford, from whom the parishioners bought the church. It is of alabaster, and Renaissance in its character. His wife lies beside him, and at the foot is a kneeling effigy, which is supposed to represent their daughter. The most ancient monument which the church possesses is now placed in a small sunk chantry of Tudor date. This lies between the chancel and the south chancel aisle, and is seen from the latter. The tombstone is that of the second Prior, and was found, according to Nash, in 1711, in a garden, about three feet from the wall of the south side of the church. It bears the following inscription :—

PHILOSOPHVS DIGNVS BONVS ASTROLOGVS, LOTHERINGVS,
VIR PIVS AC HVMILIS, MONACHVS, PRIOR HVIVS OVILIS,
HIC JACET IN CISTA, GEOMETRICVS AC ABACISTA,
DOCTOR WALCHERVS; FLET PLEBS DOLET VNDIQVE CLERVS;
HVIC LVX PRIMA MORI DEDIT OCTOBRIS SENIORI;
VIVAT VT IN COELIS EXORET QVISQVE FIDELIS, MCXXXV.

Close to this and in the same little chantry is a second stone, believed to be also the memorial of a Prior, but the inscription thereon is incomplete. On the north side of the chancel is an effigy clad in chain-mail, and carrying in his hand a sort of mace. This is said to represent a member of the family of Corbett.

There is no church in the country which possesses a finer collection of tiles, and particularly of those of a mural character. The monks owned not only a kiln, but apparently also a good supply of suitable clay, and they made use of their advantages to turn out a large number of beautiful samples of this kind of art. The tiles were freely used for the decoration of the Priory Church. In the second pillar from the west in the nave will be seen an example of that rare kind of tile on which is inscribed a verse, the theme in this case being that if one is to give, it is as well to give during one's lifetime, so that the object with which the gift is made may be fully realised. Again, built into the wall of the apse on the south side, is another tile with the inscription, "Miseremini mei, Miseremini mei, saltem vos amici mei, quia manus Domini tetigit me." Other tiles will be seen round the convex part of the chancel apse, and in the chantry above alluded to. The mural tiles are many of them in sets of five, and on some is represented that favourite mediæval object, "The Pelican in Her Piety," as it is called by heralds, that is a pelican wounding her own breast to feed her young,

a legendary theme used as a type of the Blessed Sacrament.

Sacred monograms form the adornment of other tiles, whilst there are a number bearing the coats-of-arms of persons or places connected with the priory. Nash enumerates the arms of England, of the Abbey of Westminster, Mortimer, Earl of March; Bohun, Earl of Hereford; Clare and Despencer, Earls of Gloucester; and Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick and Baron of Powick, as recognisable amongst this class. Peculiar interest is attached to some of the tiles by the fact that they are dated, bearing the inscription 36 H. vi., in other words, the thirty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, that is, 1457-1458.

Malvern Priory Church has, however, another claim to notice scarcely less pressing than that of its tiles, and that is the magnificent collection of fifteenth century glass which it contains. Thoroughly English and thoroughly characteristic of its period, there is no finer glass of its kind to be seen anywhere in this country. Fine, however, as the glass now is, it is but a sample of what this church—and many other churches throughout the land—had to boast of before Puritanism from without, and careless vicars and rectors from within, squandered the fair heritage of beauty which should have been handed down for the delight and benefit of posterity. It is too much the habit to lay all this destruction of glass at the door first of the Reformers and, secondly, of the Cromwellians. Both these

classes of persons had their sins, and no archæologist will deny that they were many and black. But the careless clergy and churchwardens of the Church of England, in a day when all care for the seemliness of churches would seem to have been utterly wanting, have played a much larger part in the destruction of objects of beauty and interest in their churches than they have generally been given credit for; indeed, if the book of their enormities could be compiled it would be found that, without Cromwell's excuse, they have done more harm than even that iconoclast. At the present day things have improved almost incredibly in this direction, but we still annually lose many precious objects of mediæval art for want of knowledge and interest on the part of their temporary owners, and of proper supervision on the part of those who are supposed to exercise jurisdiction in these matters. There is still extant a description of the windows of this church drawn up by Mr Habington in the time of Charles I., which proves, firstly, that the church was adorned with a wealth of stained glass at this period; and, secondly, that its destruction was not due to the Reformers. As a matter of fact, Nash states that, "length of time and the boys in the adjoining house, which for many years was a great school," in other words, gross neglect on the part of the owners, for the human boy will have his sport if not interfered with, "have very much injured them, there not being one window left perfect."

In the west window are St George and

the Dragon, St Catherine with her symbol the wheel, St Laurence the Deacon, with his gridiron, and the favourite figure of St Christopher placed near to the door so that all might see him when leaving the church, for according to an ancient tradition, whoever had seen the figure of this saint and invoked his aid was safe from violent death by accident for that day. The windows in the north aisle contain fragments only of old glass, and, unfortunately, some of these have been recently cleared out to make way for a Jubilee window, which is, however, of the utmost value as a standard of comparison with the older glass, and on that ground may be excused. The large window in the north transept, though much mutilated, contains many fine fragments of glass, and recognisable scenes and heads, not a few. Amongst historical personages, Henry VII., his son, Prince Arthur, the elder brother of Henry VIII., and Sir Reginald Bray, the architect of Henry VII.'s chapel in Westminster Abbey, are all to be made out. Of Scriptural subjects, the Annunciation, the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin to St Elizabeth, and the Blessed Virgin and St Joseph adoring the infant Saviour, will be recognised. The glass in the east window, save for the figures of the Apostles in the upper tiers, is made up almost entirely of fragments. The lower part of this window was, according to Habington, filled with the later incidents of our Lord's life upon earth from the time of His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, through the Scenes of the Passion, His resur-

rection, His subsequent appearances, His ascension, and the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

The south chancel aisle, known as St Anne's Chapel, contains a number of scenes from the Old Testament, commencing with the creation of the earth, sun, moon, etc., the creation of Adam and Eve, their expulsion from Eden, after which Adam is represented digging the ground, while Eve sits by with Cain upon her knee. Noah, Abraham and Isaac figure in a second window, and the third contains the emblems of the Passion on a series of shields, amongst them the kiss of Judas and the head of Christ with a bandage over the face, through which the eyes are seen.

The clerestory windows on the north side of the chancel are of peculiar interest since they contain representations of scenes connected with the legendary as well as with the historic foundation of the Abbey. Commencing at the western end of the series, above the transom, are incidents from the life of St Werstan. Four angels are seen marking out by stones the plot of ground on which the hermitage is to be built, a large key occupying the centre of this piece of greensward. Beneath is St Werstan himself, a kneeling figure, with the inscription, "Sanctus Werstanus Martir." In the next pane the saint again appears, but without the word "Martir" in the inscription. Above him is a small chapel surrounded by four angels, one of whom touches the bell hanging in its little

turret, whilst the others respectively bear a thurible, an aspergillum and a processional cross. The third pane shows a large figure of St Eadweard the Confessor giving the charter of the priory to a much smaller kneeling figure in monastic dress, who is described on a scroll as "Will'm: Edwardus." The fourth and last window represents the martyrdom of St Werstan. In the upper part the little chapel again appears with the Malvern Hills rising steeply behind it. The saint is looking out of one of the windows, and two men with swords stand outside ready to slay him. Below this is a second small building without bell-turret, and provided with three windows, in each of which is seen a man with a book. Two men with bundles of rods stand outside and may be intended to represent the persecutors, though, perhaps, not actually the murderers of the other inhabitants of the monastery. Those compartments of the windows thus described, which lie below the transoms, contain other events in connection with the priory. These are the grant and confirmation conceded by William the Conqueror to Aldwyn the founder; the grant to him by St Wulstan, bishop of Worcester; the acts of donation by William, Earl of Gloucester, Bernard, Earl of Hereford, and Osborn Poncius. The north-eastern window, according to Habington, contained another interesting figure, that of Prior John Malverne, under whom the church was rebuilt. His name first appears in the register of Bishop Bourchier in 1435, and above his

figure on the glass was the inscription "Orate pro anima Joannis Malverne, qui istam fenestram fieri fecit." In this window are to be seen representations of the life of the Blessed Virgin. SS. Joachim and Anne appear with a picture of a large bed. On the south side of the chancel the clerestory windows also contain some fine glass, particularly a representation of the Crucifixion, with angels attending upon the dying Saviour. A figure of a kneeling Pope, recognisable by the tiara, is also to be noted. Before leaving the church, a pair of chained books on a reading-desk, near the south chancel aisle, and the clappers of the old peal of bells, near the north door, may be noticed.

Leaving Great Malvern and pursuing the road along the side of the hills, the buildings of Malvern School will be seen on the left hand. This institution which was founded in 1864 has grown to a great size, and enjoys a high reputation amongst the public schools of the country. Passing through Malvern Wells, a small house with very prominent semi-circular bow-windows should be noticed as it is said to have been built by Admiral Benbow and named by him, "The Ruby"—a title which it still bears—after his last ship. In Little Malvern, a Catholic Church, to which is attached a house occupied by some Benedictine Fathers, is worth visiting, as it contains some good modern glass. The road now divides, that on the right ascending to the British Camp and leading thence to Ledbury, that on the left descending the hill by a steep pitch

dangerous to bicyclists, to Little Malvern Church and Court, which places require more than a passing notice.

Little Malvern Priory, situated in what Camden called "a dismal hollow," a title, by the way, which it is far from deserving at the present day, was established "in a wilderness thick set with trees," by a band of Benedictine monks from Worcester, desirous of greater retirement. The church is said to have been dedicated to St Giles about the year 1171, by Jocelyn and Edred. This priory was a cell to Worcester, the ledger of that priory containing a record that "Simon, bishop of Worcester, granteth, confirmeth and decreeth, that Little Malvern and the church of St Giles, there situated, built in the bishop's fee, and enriched with a monastick order, be eternally in frank almoigne and as one inseparable body with the church of Worcester, and be made the same in cohabitation and profession as Worcester church: in such manner as that no person shall be admitted to the monastic habit in Little Malvern, without the consent of the bishop, prior and convent of Worcester, but be received with their joint will and benedictions: and thus it shall be lawful for the said prior of Worcester, by way of correction, to remove the monks of Little Malvern to Worcester, and place monks of Worcester in their stead, and that the prior of Malvern shall be chosen by the chapter of Worcester." A later bishop of Worcester, John Alcock, who ruled over that see from 1476

to 1486, rebuilt the church of the priory and rededicated it to St Mary, St Giles, and St John the Evangelist. At the time of the Dissolution the revenues of the house were worth about one hundred pounds. The monastic possessions were granted to John Russel, a member of the family of Russel of Strensham, in which family they remained for several generations, passing finally into that of Berington, to which they now belong. Only a fragment of the church now remains, and is used as the church of the parish. It is mostly of the Perpendicular period, though there are fragments of an earlier date. The panelling of the tower is good, though that part of the church has a curiously truncated appearance. This is generally attributed to the fact that the battlements have been removed, but Mr Humphrey Watts informs the writer that having very carefully examined the tower, he can find no trace of the previous existence of battlements. The mediæval windlass used for hauling up the bells is in the apex of the roof where it is preserved, and he feels convinced that the present roof is that which was built in 1482. Its fellow may be seen at Pendock, six miles off, on the way to Tewkesbury. The arches supporting the Little Malvern Tower are the original work of 1171. The chancel is alone in use, but parts of the Norman nave, the transepts and the side chapels, can be traced. The Lady Chapel has disappeared. A part of the rood-screen, finely carved, remains with the ancient stalls, the carvings beneath which have, however, been defaced.

Fragments of the old glass in the east window, which originally contained figures of Edward IV., his queen and children, are still to be seen, and there are some tiles of the same character, and no doubt from the same kiln, as those at Great Malvern. There are two large hagioscopes, one on either side of the chancel, in connection with which the "Moist Man" was led into an extraordinary mistake. He speaks of these as aper tures through which "the priest looked into the church on All Souls' night, in order to see that the candles were kept lighting to show the passing souls from purgatory to Heaven." It is no wonder that this explanation provoked the ire of the better instructed attendant who was showing him round the building, for the apertures in question were, as everybody now knows, made for the purpose of permitting those kneeling in a side chapel or transept to see what was going on at the High Altar. The house stands in a beautiful situation, with a series of four pools, the ancient fish-ponds of the priory, on its south side. There are here some lime trees of great age, some of which were probably planted by the monks prior to the Dissolution. The house itself is of several periods, the oldest part being a peculiarly picturesque round tower, which has been assigned to the twelfth century. The greater portion belongs to the fifteenth century, and is said to owe its erection to the same Bishop Alcock who rebuilt the church. A black and white addition in the upper storey of the north-west gable was probably erected by

the Russels after they came into possession of the property. This house has always been, as it is now, in Catholic hands, and contains a chapel with a very finely carved oak reredos. There are also several hiding-places for priests, for this house, during the penal times, was a favourite resting-place for the ministers of the then proscribed Catholic religion. Amongst the archives is a certificate from a pursuivant that he had examined the house and found it free from priests and the implements of Popish worship. From what is known of the family and the ways of government officials at that time, it is probable that this document may have cost the then owner a considerable sum. There are a number of interesting family portraits, and, a still greater curiosity, a large travelling-trunk, covered with red leather and studded with brass nails, which bears the monogram of Catherine of Arragon, surmounted by a crown. The original grantee of Little Malvern was one Henry Russel, who had been secretary to Catherine of Arragon, a fact which probably explains the existence in the house of this relic of royalty. At no great distance from Little Malvern is the ancient house of Birtsmorton, which should not be left unvisited by those interested in domestic architecture. Birtsmorton is said to have been originally the possession of a family of the name of Birt or de Brute. However this may have been, it was the Nanfans, a Cornish family, to whom the present house owes its origin, and with whom the place has its chief associations.

In the time of Henry VI., one John Nanfan, a member of this family, was esquire of the body to the above-named monarch, and from him received the gift of the manor. His tomb is in the church hard by. In the reign of Henry VII., Sir Richard Nanfan, sheriff of Worcestershire, occupied also the position of captain of Calais. Bridges Nanfan, the last of the name to own the property, was Member of Parliament for the County. His daughter and heiress married the first Earl of Bellamont, and after his death had three further husbands, namely, Admiral Caldwell, Edmund Pytts, M.P., and William Bridgen, Lord Mayor of London in 1764. The second Earl of Bellamont left Birtsmorton to his only daughter, Lady Judith Coote, and on her death it was sold. An interesting fact in connection with the tenure of this house is, that it was once held by petty-sergeantry of the Duchy of Lancaster, the fee being a red rose. The Court has been associated with several persons of historic interest, amongst whom the first and most important is Cardinal Wolsey, who was chaplain, as a young man, to the Nanfan of the period, by whom indeed he is said to have been introduced to Henry VIII. Tradition relates that the fatal shadow of the Raggedstone Hill fell upon the young priest as he lay sleeping in the garden of the Court one day, with the fatal result upon his career which history relates. Queen Margaret and her son Prince Edward are said to have taken refuge here during the Wars of the Roses, and here

was born William Huskisson, M.P., the first victim of a railway accident, who met his death under the wheels of the "Rocket" at the opening of the railway between Liverpool and Manchester. The house is a fine old moated building, which has suffered much from injudicious restoration. It was of fifteenth century architecture, but the ancient gateway is the only part which gives much idea of what the mansion must have been like in the days of its glory. The best room in the interior is the dining-hall, a wainscotted apartment, behind the panels of which there is a secret hiding-place where, amongst other persons, Sir John Oldcastle is said to have taken refuge from his pursuers. On this occasion the mysterious shadow of the Raggedstone is said also to have put in an appropriate appearance. There is a finely carved chimney-piece in this room, and the walls are decorated with the armorial bearings of the following families, united by marriage with the Nanfans, the Scudamores of Kentchurch, the Baskervilles of Eardisley, Blount of Eye, Bromwich of Broomsberrow, Throckmorton, Ruyhales (or Rudhall), and Vaughan of Hergest. The church near by has some old glass and other objects of interest, including an ancient alms-box; but what should be chiefly noted is the fine Purbeck marble altar tomb of Sir John Nanfan, the founder of the Court. On either side of this tomb are three compartments, each formed of a trefoil-headed arch. In each of these there is a kneeling

figure, now much the worse for wear. These figures represent Arundel, Bishop of Chester; Dame Elizabeth Lygon; John Nanfan, "Squire of the body with King Hen. the Sixth"; Sir Richard Nanfan; John Nanfan, his brother; and a female, "Dame Eliz. Bollys, is sister to them both." There is a huge monument to Admiral Caldwell, the second husband of the Countess of Bellamont.

In the neighbouring parish of Berrow, there is a piece of ground called the Bloody Meadow, on which a duel, fatal to both adversaries, is said to have been fought. The story relates that a daughter of the family of Nanfan was the cause of the dispute. This legend rests on somewhat scanty foundation; but at least this is known, that a sum of money, chargeable on the income derived from this very Bloody Meadow, was left by Mistress Somers Nanfan, who entered the family by marriage, for an annual sermon to be preached in Berrow Church, in remembrance of her "wonderful deliverance from the wicked plot of an enemy."

CHAPTER III

WORCESTER

HISTORY OF THE CITY—THE BATTLE OF WORCESTER

WORCESTER is the nearest cathedral city to Malvern, and apart from that fact, has sufficient interest from the natural beauty of its surroundings and the memories associated with it, to make it the first place worthy of a visit from Malvern. It is without question a place of exceedingly ancient foundation, though there is more doubt about its early history than about that of many of the great cities of the land. It is not by any means certain whether there was any settlement here in British times, though some have supposed this to be the case. Nash says that "upon its fortification it was called by the Britons Caerguorongon, or Caerangon Urbs seu castellum praesidariis militibus, a fortified city garrisoned with soldiers." All that can fairly be said on this point is that there are now no traces of any such occupation. Nor is there any absolute proof that it ever was a Roman city. The termination *cester*, so constantly associated with

LITTLE
MALVERN
CHURCH
& COURT

E·H·N·

places of Roman origin, certainly leads one to suppose that such must have been the case. Moreover, it is on the direct road between Kempsey, where there are still the remains of a large Roman camp, and Droitwich, the *Salinae* of the Roman itineraries. Further, we are told by Tacitus that Ostorius Scapula constructed a line of military fortifications along the Severn from Uriconium or Wroxeter, in Shropshire, to Glevum, or Gloucester, and Worcester certainly seems a likely spot for such a purpose. But the finds which have been made, though they include a number of Roman objects, are not conclusive on the point. Many coins, small statuettes and other articles, clearly of Roman manufacture, have been found, but no traces of villas or baths or of those other edifices which are so characteristic of ancient Roman places of habitation. However, in one place there were discovered the foundations of a circular tower, about thirty feet in diameter, which may have belonged to the Roman period, and in which were found more than fifty Roman coins. It seems highly probable that this may have been a small fort erected by the Romans as part of the line of defences already alluded to. This may have been all that there was in the way of fortifications during the period in question. There seem, however, in addition to this, to have been evidences found of the existence of an iron-foundry belonging to the same period. In a work by Yarranton, called "England's Improvement by Sea and Land," published in

1667, it is stated that the author "found out a vast quantity of Roman cinders near the walls of the city of Worcester; from whence he and others carried away many thousand tons or loads up the river of Severn, unto their iron furnaces, to be melted down into iron, with a mixture of the Forest of Dean ironstone; and within one hundred yards of the walls of the city of Worcester there was dug up one of the hearths of the Roman foot-blasts; it being then firm, and in order, and was seven foot deep in the earth; and by the side of the work there was found out a pot of Roman coine, to the quantity of a peck: some of which was presented to Sir Dugdale, and part whereof is now in the king's closet; by all which circumstances it clearly appears that the Romans made iron in England, and as far up the river Severn as the city of Worcester, where as yet there are vast quantities remaining." Nash, from whose work this quotation is taken, was at first rather dubious about accepting the fact, though a later edition seems to show that further evidence had convinced him on the point. Allies, however, states that he had several times examined the stratum of iron scoriæ and clinkers at Cinder Point, on the east bank of the Severn, in a place called Pitchcroft, and found that the bed was extensive, and very rich in metal. This he believes to have been the place alluded to by Yarranton. The stratum, according to Allies, lay by the river side about six feet deep, beneath the alluvial soil, and was most probably the

rough and half-smelted ore thrown aside in the time of the Romans, they having, it is said, only foot-blasts to smelt the ironstone. But allowing that the Romans did occupy Worcester, we are still in ignorance of the name which they gave to the station at that spot. The older writers identified it with Bravinium, but incorrectly, for there can be little doubt that the place so-named is now represented by Leintwardine, in Herefordshire, on the line of road between Uriconium and Kenchester, the Roman Magna. This road now goes by the name of the Watling Street, though it is a different highway from the better known street of that name which ran between Chester and London. The Saxons called Worcester by the name of Wigornaceaster, and it is possible that in the first part of this appellation we have the ancient Roman name. Some of the bishops of the see have signed themselves Wigorn, and that name has otherwise been used as a synonym for the shire. There is a village near Birmingham called Warley, which was until recently half in Shropshire and half in Worcestershire, and the parts whereof were known respectively as Warley Salop and Warley Wigorn.

In the Saxon period Worcester becomes a place of importance. Florence of Worcester, a monk in the monastery of that place, where he died in 1118, states that as early as 680 the city was surrounded by lofty walls and provided with important fortifications, but perhaps this is rather in the nature of a rhetorical flourish. At any

rate, its importance was sufficient to make it a place worthy of attack by the Danes, who raided the city on various occasions. In a glass case in the chapter-house of the Cathedral there is preserved a piece of skin which was formerly attached to the great north door of that edifice. This piece of skin is said to have been part of the hide of a Dane who was flayed alive for sacrilege. A similar legend is met with in connection with pieces of skin which have been found on other church-doors. In the case of the Worcester specimen, microscopic examination has proved that the skin was once the vesture of a human being, and from its situation it was probably that of some criminal executed for sacrilege. Whether it belonged to a Dane or to a native it is quite impossible to say. After a destructive incursion on the part of the Danes towards the end of the ninth century a charter was granted by King Aelfred, at the request of his daughter Aethelflaed, known as "the lady of Mercia," and wife of Aethelred, Duke of that ilk, for the re-building of the city. In 1041 the city was again destroyed by the Danes, on this occasion because the citizens had slain two of the tax-collectors sent to gather in the Danegelt. The inhabitants of the city saved their lives by flying to the adjacent island of Bevere, which lies in the Severn about two miles above Worcester, and recalls by its name the times when beavers built their dams in the quieter reaches of the river and its tributaries. Continuing the purely civic history, and leaving

the ecclesiastical for separate consideration, the next point of interest is the Norman Conquest, at which time, we learn from Doomsday Book, that Worcester was a place of importance, with the right of coining money. It now became the site of a Norman castle, built in close proximity to the Cathedral, by Urso d'Abitot, first Sheriff of the County under the Conqueror. This castle, of which no vestige now remains, though its site is still called Castle Hill, was afterwards the residence of the hereditary Sheriffs of the County. The building of this castle was, however, the inauguration of a further period of trouble and strife for the inhabitants of the city, as it was the centre of the many conflicts of the period, and particularly of those between King Stephen's adherents and those of the Empress Maud. Its misfortunes did not solely arise from warfare, for within one period of a hundred years the city was on no less than six occasions more or less destroyed by fire. On one of these occasions Nash, quoting from Florence of Worcester, says: "13. H. i. 1113, on the 13th of the kalends of June, this city with all its churches, together with the cathedral church and castle, were consumed by fire, and one monk with two of their servants, with fifteen citizens, perished in the flames." It would be a tedious process to detail the various visits of the early monarchs of this country to the city of Worcester, or to delay over other events which, however important in the history of a smaller place, may well be neglected in the case of a town

of such importance as that with which we are now dealing. We may, therefore, pass over all such occurrences and come to the period of the Civil War, in connection with which the name of Worcester must ever occupy a prominent place. The city was always faithful to the cause of the King, and was, during the early part of the contest, held for him by Prince Rupert. On his evacuation it was taken possession of by the Parliamentary forces, who revenged themselves upon the city and its inhabitants by a most merciless pillage of public and private buildings. The Cathedral, particularly, was the object of their malice, and such vestments, brasses, and stained glass as had been spared by the Reformers, were utterly destroyed. After having ravaged the city to their satisfaction, the Earl of Essex and his forces marched to Shrewsbury in pursuit of the King. Undeterred by this punishment the city, meriting the title which it received of *Fidelis Civitas*, still adhered to the cause of the King, and held out for some time against a siege undertaken by the Parliamentary forces in 1646. The defence was unfortunately unsuccessful, and the forces of the enemy, entering the city, again wreaked their vengeance upon the citizens and the religious edifices. The Dean and other functionaries were turned out of their offices, and services of various Nonconformist types held in the Cathedral. Five years later Worcester was to be the scene of a still greater and more important conflict, Cromwell's "crowning mercy," the de-

cisive struggle of the great Civil War. King Charles II., with an army drawn from Scotland, took up his position in Worcester on the 22nd of August, 1651, first expelling a small garrison of Parliamentary troops then occupying the city. Reinforcements arrived from the county around, most of the local gentry and their followers flocking to the banner of the King, but even with this augmentation his forces only amounted to about 12,000 all told. Six days later, that is, on the 28th, Cromwell appeared before the walls of the city with 18,000 men, and fixed his headquarters at Spetchley, then, as now, the property of the Berkeley family. General Fleetwood, with his soldiers, having effected a junction with Cromwell, the entire Parliamentary forces now amounted to about 30,000 men. On the day of Cromwell's first appearance on the scene there was an encounter between the two forces at Upton, where the Royalists had broken down the bridge. The latter were routed, and the command of the river gained by the Parliamentarians. Other skirmishes took place from day to day, but not until the 3rd of September was there a decisive conflict. Cromwell was at this time posted at a place called Perry Wood, about a mile from the city, and for a short time the issue of the conflict seemed to be favourable to the Royalists. But further Parliamentary reinforcements coming up turned the tide. Charles II., who was himself present at the conflict, tried every means in his power to rally and reinspirit his routed troops,

calling out, "I had rather you should shoot me than keep me alive to see the sad effects of this fatal day." His efforts were, however, in vain, and with some difficulty the King escaped to White Ladies, shortly afterwards obtaining a somewhat safer hiding-place at Boscobel, whence after many wanderings and adventures he eventually made his escape to France. Of the Royalist forces some 4000 perished, the Duke of Hamilton being one of the number. The city again suffered for its faithfulness to its lawful sovereign, and before leaving it Cromwell ordered that the walls should be levelled with the ground, a not uncommon or unnatural way of dealing with places which had given trouble to the Parliamentarians during the prolonged internecine strife. A letter written on the evening of the battle by Cromwell to Lenthall, the Speaker of the House of Commons, is interesting as giving the victorious general's own story of this memorable conflict.

Sir,—Being so weary, and scarce able to write, yet I thought it my duty to let you know thus much. That upon this day, being the third of September (remarkable for a mercy vouchsafed to your forces on this day twelvemonth in Scotland [1]), we built a bridge over Severn, between it and Thame, about halfe mile from Worcester, and another over Thame, within

[1] This was the battle of Dunbar, where the Parliamentary forces under Cromwell gained a complete victory over Leslie and the Royalists.

pistol shot of the other bridge. Lieutenant-Generall Fleetwood and Major-General Deane marched from Upton on the south-west side of the Severn up to Powick, a towne which was a passe the enemy kept. We past over, some horse and foot, and were in conjunction with the Lieutenant-Generall's forces. We beat the enemy from hedge to hedge until we beat them into Worcester. The enemy then drew all his forces on the other side of the town, all but what he lost, and made a very considerable fight with us for three hours' space; but in the end we beate them totally, and pursued him to his royal fort, which we tooke, and indeed have beaten his whole army. When we took this fort we turned his owne guns upon him. The enemy hath had a greate losse, and certainly is scattered and run several ways. We are in pursuite of him, and have laid forces in severall places, that we hope to gather him up. Indeed this hath been a very glorious mercy, and as stiffe a contest for four or five hours as ever I have seen. Both your old forces and those new raised have behaved themselves with very great courage, and he that made them come out made them willingly to fight for you. The Lord God Almighty frame our hearts to reall thankfulnesse for this, which is alone his doing. I hope I shall, within a day or two, give you a more perfect account. In the meantime, I hope you will pardon, Sir, your most humble servant,

O. Cromwell.

Near Worcester, 3 Sept. 1651, 10 at night.

It was almost nine years before matters religious in Worcester again returned to the condition which they were in before the war broke out, for on the 31st of August 1660, the Restoration having taken place, service after the Anglican rite was once more performed within the walls of the Cathedral, doubtless much to the delight of the loyal burghers of the faithful city. James the Second visited Worcester, touched there for "the King's Evil," and went in state to the Catholic Chapel, to the doors of which, but no further, he was attended by the mayor and aldermen. These sturdy Protestants, who feared that "they had already attended His Majesty too far," awaited his departure from the church in the Green Dragon Inn, and charged the expenses of the wine which they consumed there to Petty Cash, for the score is to be seen to this day in the Corporation accounts. George III. also made a memorable visit to the city in the year 1788, being accompanied by Queen Charlotte, the Duke of York, the Princess Royal and the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth. It is now time to turn to the ecclesiastical history of Worcester for the commencement of which we must go back to the Saxon period. In the seventh century the kingdom of Mercia, within which Worcester was included, was divided into five bishoprics and one of the sees established in this city. The date of this event seems to have been either 679 or the succeeding year, and the settlement made by King Aethelred and Archbishop Theo-

dore included the establishment of a Chapter of Secular Canons to serve the Cathedral Church of St Peter. Some two centuries later, before 964 in any case, Bishop Oswald founded a new Cathedral within the churchyard of the older edifice, and dedicated it to the Blessed Virgin. This church was served by a Prior and monks belonging to the Benedictine order. Some authorities state that Oswald expelled the secular clergy from the church to which they had been attached, but according to another, and, as Mr Strange thinks, more reliable tradition, the transference was effected in a more peaceful manner. "At the suggestion of his friend Dunstan," says Mr Strange, "Oswald erected a new church, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the very churchyard of the existing monastery, and by the superior manner in which the services were performed, drew away the whole of the congregation from the older place of worship. Unable to withstand this practical rebuke, the canons of St Peter's submitted; and their Dean, Winsige, was received into the new convent, which was placed under the strict rule of the Benedictines." Whichever may be the true account, it is quite certain that from the time of St Oswald, the Cathedral was served by Benedictine monks under the rule of a Cathedral Prior, who appears for the time to have had the right, as was sometimes the case under such circumstances, to the use of pontifical vestments. This form of connection between an Episcopal church and a body of Benedictines was not an unusual state of

affairs during Catholic times, and is now the case in certain Catholic Dioceses in England and elsewhere. Where it existed there was no Dean, but the position of that functionary in a Cathedral served by Secular Canons was filled by the Cathedral Prior. At the time of the Reformation, the Priors ceased to exist, and the Cathedral, as elsewhere in Anglican Dioceses, was placed under a Dean and Chapter.

Oswald's Cathedral was destroyed, or at least seriously damaged, by the Danes under Hardicanute in the raid which has already been alluded to. In his "Survey of the Cathedral Church of Worcester," published in London in 1737, Dr William Thomas gives the following account of the destruction and rebuilding of the church. 'This new Church at the Monastery was finished by *Oswald* in the year of our Lord 983, which stood not long before that and the City were destroyed by *Hardicute*, who, to revenge the death of two of his Collectors here slain 4 Nones of May 1041, sent his Forces under the command of several of his Nobles, enjoining them to slay all without Mercy, to rifle and burn the City, and to lay waste the Country. On the second of the Ides of *Nov.* they began to put this cruel command of the King in Execution, and for four days ravaged and spoiled at Pleasure: But the countrymen (fore-apprized of their Danger) were fled, and the Citizens retired with their Wives and Children into a small Island called Bevereye, encompassed by the Severn, about two miles above the City, where they

manfully defended themselves, and making their peace, they had Liberty given them to return Home, but found their City sack'd and burnt. How long this Church lay in Ruins, or whether patched up for Divine Service before Bishop Wulstan's Time, is not mentioned by any of our Historians; but the *Worcester* Annals tell us, that he it was that began to build a New One a little more to the South of the Old One, A.D. 1084; and in the year 1089, Indiction 12. 3 Will. 2. 27 of his Pontificate, he finished both that and the Monastery, into which on *Whitsunday* he removed the Monks, whose number he had augmented from little more than Twelve to Fifty. And at the same Time he offered up at the High Altar his Deed, whereby he gave them for their better maintenance Fifteen Hides at *Alfestun* (Alveston), which had been for a long time withheld from the Church, but recovered by him from King *William* the First, with much Labour and Cost. It is said of him, that upon the removing of the Monks into his New Monastery, he ordered the Old Church and Monastery to be pulled down; and when he saw the Workmen doing of it he wept: For which being modestly reproved by some of his Attendants, who told him, He rather ought to rejoice, that the Church had come to so great splendour, and that the enlarged Number of Monks required more spacious Habitations. He answered, I think far otherwise, we poor wretches destroy the Works of our Forefathers only to get Praise to ourselves: That happy age of Holy

Men knew not how to build Stately Churches, under any Roof they offered up themselves living Temples unto God, and by their Examples excited those under their Care to do the same: but we on the contrary neglecting the Care of Souls, Labour to keep up Stones." The Cathedral suffered further injury from fire in 1113, 1180 and 1202, and after restoration was consecrated by Bishop Sylvester in 1218, in the presence of Henry II., ten bishops and many abbots and priors. Its dedication was made "in honore Sanctae Dei Genetricis Mariae et beati Petri Apostoli et sanctorum confessorum Oswaldi et Wulstani." At the time of the Reformation the then Cathedral Prior, Henry Holbech, became the first Dean, and the total value of the Spiritualities and Temporalities was £1106, 17s. 3d. Like most other similar establishments the Cathedral of Worcester fell into great neglect after the Reformation, and many abuses arose in connection with its properties and proceedings. In 1635, a series of orders were issued to the Dean and Chapter by Archbishop Laud, instructing them to reform certain abuses, one of which orders may here be quoted. "6. Item, that your churchyard be decently and without prophanacon kept, and that you take care that the bones of the dead may not bye scattered vp and downe, but that they bee gathered togeather and buryed; and that the chappell called Capella carnariae, scituatt at the entry of your cathedrall, now prophaned and made a hay barne, bee restored and imployed to

the wonted vse, and that the encroachments made vpon your churchyard and other halowed ground about your church be likewise restored and layd open for those ancient vses to w^ch^ they were dedicated." Other facts in connection with the building of various parts of the Cathedral will be touched upon in the chapter devoted to that edifice. This portion of the history of Worcester may now be fitly concluded by some account of the more important occupants of the Episcopal Chair, both in pre- and post-Reformation times. St Ecguin (692-710) was the founder of the great Abbey at Evesham, on the completion of which, he resigned his bishopric, in order to become the first abbot of the new monastery and there died, 717. St Dunstan, the celebrated Abbot of Glastonbury, afterwards even more celebrated as Archbishop of Canterbury, was for a short time, in 957, occupant of this See. SS. Oswald (960-992) and Wulstan (1062-1095) have already been alluded to. The remaining pre-Reformation Bishops demand no special notice, but those desiring to see who and what they were may be referred to the pages of Mr Strange's interesting book on the Cathedral of Worcester.

Hugh Latimer (1535-1539) is believed to have been made bishop by the influence of Anne Boleyn. In 1538 he showed what his opinions were by stripping the image of the Blessed Virgin in the Cathedral of its jewels and ornaments. The history of this prelate is so familiar to all men, that it will be sufficient

here to say that he was burnt at the stake, in company with Cranmer and Ridley, "at the ditch over against Balliol College," at Oxford, on the 16th October, 1555. John Hooper, Bishop of both Worcester and Gloucester, was burnt at the latter place, "opposite the college of priests," on Friday, February 9th, 1555. The next bishop requiring special notice is John Gauden, born at Mayland in Essex in 1605. He was at first a Parliamentarian, and is even believed to have subscribed to the Solemn League and Covenant. At any rate he managed to retain all his benefices during the time of the Commonwealth. On the Restoration, whether on account of his assertion that he was the author of the work shortly to be mentioned or from other influence, he was made a chaplain to the King and Bishop of Exeter. This see was, however, not wealthy enough to please him, and he made a great effort to obtain translation to Winchester, but only succeeded in being allotted the less valuable preferment of Worcester. Vexation at his failure is said to have led to his death. His principal, indeed it may be said, his only claim to remembrance, is the possibility that he was the author of the "Εἰκὼν βασιλικὴ; the Pourtraicture of His Sacred Majestie in His Solitudes and Sufferings." This book which claimed to have been written by the King himself, appeared on the day after his execution. Gauden however asserted that he was the real author, and though this claim was then and has been since disputed, he

seems to have had some connection with the book, or at any rate to have been privy to its production. Since the time of this bishop the names of Stillingfleet (1689-1699) and Lloyd (1699-1719) one of the seven bishops committed to the Tower by James II. are perhaps those most worthy of note.

As mention has been made of the martyrdom of certain bishops for their adherence to Protestantism, it may be fair to state that the Catholic party had no monopoly in persecutions in the city of Worcester. Latimer himself, who was afterwards to perish by a similar death, presided at the martyrdom of Dr Forrest, a friar, who was burnt to death for denying the supremacy of Henry VIII., in spiritual matters. Mr Noakes, in his "Worcester Sects," states that "a large wooden statue of the Virgin was brought from *Wales* to make the death-fire, and *Latimer*, Bishop of *Worcester*, presided at the execution. While preaching to the poor friar, as he hung suspended in the flames, the bishop exceeded his usual eloquence, and asked the half-consumed victim what state he should die in; but the friar, in a bold voice, answered, 'that if an angel should come down from heaven and teach him any other doctrine than he had received and believed from his youth, he would not now believe him'; and so he was hanged and burnt." Father Oldcorn, a well-known Jesuit, was executed in 1606 on Red Hill, near Worcester, having been previously tried at that city for the crime of being a Popish priest, and

others suffered at or near Worcester either for that crime or for the other offence of harbouring or assisting priests.

Worcester has for centuries been celebrated for its manufactures, though the oldest and once the most famous of these has now wholly disappeared, namely, the manufacture of cloth. Leland, in the time of Henry VIII., stated that "the wealthe of the towne of Worcester standeth most by drapery; and no towne of England at this present tyme maketh so many cloathes yearly as this town doth." The reason of the decline of this prosperous trade is, as given by Nash, rather interesting, and not unserviceable as a lesson at the present day, when some part of the decrease in the export trade of this country seems to be due to the idea of manufacturers that they know better what foreigners want than the foreigners themselves. "Of late years," says Nash, "the trade of the city is very much lessened; the clothing trade is totally gone; it began to decline soon after the revolution, owing partly to the roguery of the manufacturers, who stretched their clothes so much, that when they came to Blackwell-hall or Turkey, they wanted much of their measure, and partly to the workmen's obstinacy, for they persisted in making a thick heavy broad cloth, when the Turks chose rather a thin spongy cloth, which took a brighter dye." The Clothier's Company still exists, for the Royal Charter by which it was founded has never been revoked, but its only purpose now

is to distribute certain charities which still remain as the last trace of a once powerful trading guild, and the industry of which it was the guardian.

The Glovers Company is of ancient date, having been first incorporated in 1497, and subsequently having received a new charter from Queen Elizabeth. But as the earliest records of the city make mention of a Glovers' Street, now known as New Street, it is clear that the trade must have existed in the city from time immemorial. This industry, at least, is still flourishing, for Messrs Dent, Allcroft & Co., Messrs Fownes & Co., and other makers have their establishments in the city.

But perhaps the most interesting trade is that of porcelain-making, the celebrated Worcester china, so dear to the hearts of collectors, having been made in the city since 1751. The manufacture was first introduced by Dr Wall, who was a physician of artistic and chemical knowledge. He analysed the China porcelain, and suggested the paste which was used in the early history of the works. During the early part of their history the Oriental porcelain was imitated with great skill, but somewhat later the use of transfer printing was here applied for the first time to the adornment of china. This invention seems first to have been used in the celebrated enamel works at Battersea, whose products now are the joy of the collector. These works having, however, come to an end in 1756, the principal artist thereat, named

R. Hancock, found a home in Worcester, and there introduced the new invention for the purposes of the products of that manufactory. Dr Wall died in 1776, but his partners carried on the works until 1783, when they were sold to Flight, the London agent for the china. In the hands of his family they remained until 1792, and during that period permission was given by George IV. for the word "Royal" to be added to the name of the manufactory. The firm of Flight & Barr, formed in 1793, continued until 1807, when the title was altered to Flight, Barr & Barr. It was united with the Chamberlain business in 1840. The originator of this firm had been engaged in the first manufactory with Dr Wall, but on the sale of the business to Mr Flight he set up on his own account, and the separate concern thus originated continued until the amalgamation above-mentioned. The present joint-stock company was formed in 1862. During this lengthy history many marks have been used, one of the first being the well-known crescent. A peculiar kind of square and a W are other marks, but figures of all these emblems will be found in the guide to and history of the works which every visitor receives when making his round of the manufactory.

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

CHAPTER IV

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL—OTHER CHURCHES AND BUILDINGS IN THE CITY

THE Cathedral is naturally the first object of interest in the city of Worcester, and, though it cannot vie with some of its sister edifices, like Lincoln, Salisbury or Wells in site, there are several points from which an excellent view of the building may be obtained, perhaps the best of these being that from the College Green, where the ancient Castle of Worcester once stood. The building has a nave with aisles, and a north porch, a central tower, a choir (also with aisles), a Lady Chapel, similarly provided, and double transepts. Its total length is 394 feet; it is 78 feet in breadth, and the height of the groined roof is 68 feet. It was, as has been already mentioned, shockingly treated by Cromwell and his soldiery after the battle of Worcester, so that, at the Restoration, it was without either glass or roof. In the early part of the eighteenth century, and again between 1748 and 1756, considerable restorations took place, and further efforts in the same direction were

made in later parts of the same century and in the early part of the nineteenth. The great restoration, however, which left the church as we now find it, commenced in 1857 under the direction of Mr Perkins, the Cathedral architect, and was continued after 1864 by Sir Gilbert Scott. The result of all this, as might indeed be expected, is that Worcester Cathedral is to a large extent a new church, though following as closely as possible the lines of the building so sorely maltreated by the Parliamentarian forces. As Willis puts it, "It is necessary to recollect that the crumbling material of the Cathedral had decayed to such an extent on the exterior as to destroy the whole of the decorative features; and in the interior, settlements of the piers and arches in the early English work had attained so alarming a magnitude as to threaten the stability of the structure. The outside of the Cathedral had been overloaded and disfigured by additional buttresses to prop up its falling walls. Most of these have been removed or repaired, and the walls themselves thoroughly and skilfully restored to soundness by renewing the whole of the exterior ashlar and pointing the interior, resetting it when required. This process has necessarily destroyed all appearance of antiquity in the exterior of the choir and Lady Chapel, but it must be remembered that all the decorative features of the original had vanished long since and given place to the mean and uninteresting botchings of the sixteenth and

seventeenth centuries, and that we now have a reproduction of its original aspect, as far as can be determined." Mention should here be made of the fact that the last restoration was largely carried out by the liberality of the late Earl of Dudley, who is said to have given more than £60,000 of the £100,000 which the alterations cost. The west front is not of an imposing character, and is largely modern. The great window, of early Decorated design, with the wheel in its apex, belongs to the last restoration, and replaces one of a nondescript character which may be seen in a picture of the church as it was in 1798, which is exhibited in the local museum. From this it will also be noticed that the present octagonal crocketed pinnacles which surmount the buttresses replace the taller and more pointed structures which belonged to an earlier restoration. The doorway below this window is, save for its jambs, which are of Norman date, also of modern erection. The north porch was originally added by Bishop Wakefield (1375-94), but its northern face with the figures thereon is modern. Above this porch are a set of rooms for the porter of the church. The east end has a series of early English windows, inserted by Perkins during the earlier part of the recent restoration. The tower is 196 feet in height, and was originally erected in 1374, but has recently been completely restored at the expense of the late Earl of Dudley.

On the whole, it may be said that Worcester

has been more completely restored or rebuilt than any other cathedral, and perhaps more successfully than most. The only absolutely original piece of tracery left in the church, Mr Watts tells me, is a pierced spherical triangle in the north porch, which helps to light the Cathedral from the porch.

The interior is entered by the north porch, and the nave will then be seen to possess nine bays, of which the two nearest to the west end are quite different from the remainder, and are indeed of singular beauty and interest. "The pier arches are pointed, but rise from late Norman capitals; the triforium stages have each two three-light round-headed windows, of which the centre one is considerably the highest, surmounted with zig-zag ornament, and decorated with characteristic lozenges, the whole enclosed within a pointed moulding. The clerestory has, in each bay, a central round-headed light, with Norman ornament above it, flanked by blank pointed windows, considerably smaller. The pier shafts present a curious and rare feature. The Normans generally ran one engaged shaft from the ground to the spring of the vault. Afterwards these were sub-divided generally into three, to correspond with the transverse and diagonal ribs of the vault. But here we find a sub-division into five, with the transverse, two diagonal and two wall-ribs. It is one of the earliest examples of the sub-divided vaulting shafts" (Strange). Mr Prior dates this work to c. 1160. The remaining bays of the nave

THE CHOIR, WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

are either late Decorated or very early Perpendicular, the whole of the walls and the pier arches of the two bays nearest to the Norman pair on the north side belonging to the former and the remainder to the latter period. It is probable that the termination of this part of the work coincides with the date of the vaulting of the nave, which was 1377. The west window is filled with glass by Hardman, representing the Days of Creation, and was presented by the late Earl of Dudley. The most important of the monuments between the pier arches of the nave is that of Sir John Beauchamp, of Holt, who was executed on Tower Hill in 1388. The head of the knight rests on his helmet which bears a swan, his crest; and that of his wife reposes on a swan. The north aisle, of the Decorated period, was completed by Bishop Cobham (1317-27). In this aisle, and close to the Jesus Chapel, shortly to be described, is the marble tomb of Bishop Bullingham, ob. 1576, the earliest post-Reformation bishop buried in the Cathedral. This tomb was originally in the Jesus Chapel hard by; and the fact that the person in whose memory it was erected was a native of the city, of which he afterwards became bishop, is alluded to in the inscription, which runs:—

"NICOLAVS. EPV̄S. WIGORN.

"Here borne here Bishop buried here
A Bullingham by name and stocke
A man twise maried in Godes feare
Chief Pastor late of Lincoln flocke

Whom Oxford trayned up in yowthe
Whom Cambrydge Doctor did create
A paynful Preacher of the Truthe
He chayngd this Lief for happie State

"18 Aprilis 1576."

Just beyond this monument is the Jesus Chapel, now presenting a very different appearance from that of a few years ago. It was originally shut off from the rest of the church by a screen, and above the chapel was a room containing a fire-place, also an oven, believed to have been constructed for the purpose of baking the altar-breads. The altar in the chapel was destroyed, and its adornments defaced by Bishop Barlow. In 1750 the screen was removed, and the font having been placed within the chapel it was used as a baptistery. Since 1890, however, the screen has been replaced, and is now surmounted by a crucifix, with figures of the Blessed Virgin and St John on either side. The monuments have been removed from the interior of the chapel, and a Communion-table placed therein, above which is an image of the Blessed Virgin and Child.

The north transept is in its lower stages of Norman architecture, and in its upper part of Perpendicular. The most interesting monument which it contains is that of Hough, in connection with whose election as President of Magdalen College, Oxford, the celebrated struggle between the Fellows of that Society and King James II. arose. King James was anxious that Parker, Bishop of Oxford, should

become President, but the Fellows in defiance of the Royal will chose Hough. As a result the Fellows were expelled from the College, and deprived of their Fellowships, being shortly afterwards followed by the Demies. The monument by Roubiliac represents Hough reclining on a sarcophagus, whilst below, in relief, he is represented pleading before King James for the rights of his College. In this transept there is also a monument to the celebrated Bishop Stillingfleet.

The south transept is somewhat similar in architecture to its northern fellow. It contains the seated effigy of Bishop Philpott (1861-1890).

In the south aisle are the two entrances to the cloister, that nearest to the east being the principal. In the wall of this aisle are five Norman recesses, probably intended to receive the monuments of distinguished persons. Within one of these recesses is a very interesting effigy of an ecclesiastic, believed by Bloxam to represent one of the Cathedral priors vested for the saying of Mass. The writer just alluded to attributes this monument to the latter part of the fourteenth or commencement of the fifteenth century. Another monument of interest is that to "Thomas Littleton de Frankly." It is an altar tomb which was formerly provided with a brass of the judge in his robes. This brass was stolen during the Parliamentary wars. Thomas Littleton, who was born at Frankley House, near to Bromsgrove, was the author of a work, written in legal French, on Tenures, chiefly known to modern

readers in the form of the commentary entitled "Coke upon Littleton." This Thomas was the ancestor of the family of Lyttleton of Hagley. Near the west end of this aisle and close to the font is the monument of Bishop Gauden, the possible author of the Εἰκὼν βασιλικὴ. Whether his claims in this respect were warranted or not, he certainly was responsible for the production of several other works, with the curious form of title affected at that date. Amongst these are "Ecclesiae Anglicanae suspiria: the tears, sighs, complaints and prayers of the Church of England," "Funerals made Cordials," and "Hieraspistes." The monument bears a bust of the bishop holding a book in his hand, and has an inscription terminating thus: "Hoc monumentum non memoriae (quam scripta haud sirent perire) sed amoris ergo, posuit conjux moestissima Epitaphiũ par meritis scripsisse suum potuit solumodo ingeniũ ad scriptus est iñortalibus vicessimo die mens Septembris Anõ MDCLXII AEtat LVII."

The choir is separated from the nave by a screen partly of metal and partly of carved wood. It is of modern manufacture.

The choir, with the Lady Chapel and the aisles belonging to both, as also the eastern transepts, are all of early English architecture. Prior to 1224 their place was occupied by an earlier Norman building, which stood upon the still existing crypt of the same period of architecture. At the date just mentioned, however, this Norman edifice was taken down and the existing parts of

the Cathedral, or rather those buildings which the existing walls represent, were erected in their stead. There are still some traces of the old Norman work to be recognised in this part of the church, but, as has been said, it is almost wholly early English and has been most completely restored, the entire of the east wall of the Lady Chapel with its window, for example, being quite a new erection. A large number of the sculptures which adorn the beautiful arcading which runs round the choir aisles and Lady Chapel are also quite new. The choir itself is of five bays. The piers of the arches are octagonal and provided with detached shafts of Purbeck marble, some of which are provided with brass rings, placed there, according to a statement in Leland's Itinerary, by Bishop Godfrey Giffart or Giffard. According to Willis the object of these rings was to hide an unsightly method of fastening the lengths of shafting to the columns. There are similar rings to be seen in the choir at Pershore Abbey Church. The triforium has two arches in each of its bays, and each of these is again divided into two further arches. The inner wall is provided with an arcade. Each bay, so far as the clerestory is concerned, is provided with three lancet windows, the central being the highest. The stalls of the choir were originally erected in 1379 and have been most extensively restored. The chief point of interest in connection with the row of stalls is the remarkably fine series of miserere seats which they possess. After passing through all

the perils of Puritan times and the almost equally great dangers of the earlier restorations, these seats were made into a kind of cornice for the screen then separating the choir from the nave and bearing upon it the organ. They were placed in that position early in the nineteenth century, and there they remained until 1865 when this screen was taken down. After the restoration of the stalls the seats were placed in their proper position. They are thirty-seven in number, and present the usual mixture of subjects met with in such pieces of ecclesiastical furniture. Some are religious such as those representing Christ in the temple and the Circumcision. Some are perhaps allegorical such as a scene representing three mowers, on one side of which, as a kind of supporter, is a wolf in a cope saying grace over a sheep's head. Others again represent everyday scenes, a swineherd beating down acorns from a tree for the animals under his care, or a noble hawking whilst his horse is held near him by his page. The bishop's throne, the gift of the last occupant of the see, is quite modern, as is the reredos, which is an exceedingly gorgeous structure designed by the late Sir Gilbert Scott. There are two pulpits in the Cathedral, one in the nave and the other in the choir. The former is modern and was presented by the late Earl of Dudley, the latter, which is carved from a single block of stone, is an example of Jacobean Gothic and should, according to Mr Strange, be assigned to the date 1630. In the centre of the choir is one of the

most interesting monuments in the church, that of King John. This monarch seems to have had a special devotion to St Wulstan, for though he died at Newark, he commended his body to his favourite saint and was buried between him and St Oswald, in front of the spot then occupied by the high altar. According to the late Mr Bloxam, "the effigy was originally the cover of the stone coffin in which the remains of the monarch were deposited in the Chapel of the Virgin, at the east end of the Cathedral. The altar tomb is of a much later period, probably constructed early in the sixteenth century, when the tomb of Prince Arthur was erected. . . . The effigy of the king, sculptured in the early part of the thirteenth century, and probably the earliest sepulchral effigy in the Cathedral . . . represents him in the royal habiliments; first, the tunic, yellow or of cloth of gold, reaching nearly to the ankles, with close-fitting sleeves, of which little is apparent. Over the tunic is seen the dalmatic, of a crimson colour, with wide sleeves edged with a gold and jewelled border, and girt about the waist by a girdle buckled in front, the pendant end of the girdle, which is jewelled, falling down as low as the skirt of the dalmatic. Of the yellow mantle lined with green little is visible. On the feet are black shoes, to the heels of which are affixed spurs. On the hands are gloves, jewelled at the back; the right hand held a sceptre, the lower portion of which only is left; the left grasps the hilt of the sword. On the head is the crown; there are moustaches

and beard, and the light brown hair is long. On either side of the head is the figure of a bishop holding a censer, perhaps intended to represent St Oswald and St Wulstan, between whose tombs the king was interred in the chapel of the Virgin." It adds considerably to the interest of this monument to remember that it is the earliest royal effigy existing in England. One other object of first-class merit belongs to the choir, and that is the Chantry Chapel of the ill-fated Prince Arthur, eldest son of Henry VII., who died at Ludlow Castle, and was buried in this Cathedral. The date of this chapel is 1504, and, though it has been sorely mutilated by the unspeakable parliamentarians, enough still remains to show us that it was no mean rival to Henry VII.'s own chapel at Westminster, or the other fine chantries of this period. It is entered from the choir, and its supports are carried down into the choir aisle, from which or from the choir transept a fine view of the whole structure is to be obtained. The centre of the chantry is occupied by the tomb of the young prince, around the top of which is a painted inscription—the original was no doubt in brass—which runs "Here lyeth buried prince Arthur, the first begotten sonne of the righte renowned King henry the Seventhe, whiche noble Prince departed oute of this transitory life ate the Castle of Ludlowe, in the seventeenth yeere of hys father's reign, and in the yeere of our Lorde god on thousande fyve hundred and two." At the east end of the

chapel are the horribly mutilated remains of what must once have been a magnificent reredos, and at the other end is a small seated figure of the Prince's father, Henry VII. The sides of the chantry are formed of open and closed panel work, and are decorated with a number of heraldic devices, amongst which are the portcullis, the Tudor rose, and the fetterlock. The heart of the Prince was removed from his body, and buried in a silver casket in the chancel of the great parish church at Ludlow, such separate interment of that organ being no uncommon practice in mediæval times. Thus the heart of Richard Cœur de Lion is buried beneath the floor of the choir at Rouen Cathedral.

The south aisle of the choir leads to the Chapel of St John, which was formerly used for vestries. At its west end is a very fine Norman arch, which was opened up in 1862. The door in the south-west corner leads to the Treasury.

The north aisle of the choir has projecting into it a curious and rather beautiful oriel window, beneath which there are traces of a doorway. These structures were part of the house of the sacristan, which formerly stood without this wall. The window was for the purpose of enabling him to see that the lights were burning properly in front of the high altar, as well as to look after the safety of the rich ornaments with which it would be decked.

The eastern transepts are, like the Lady Chapel, provided with a very beautiful wall-

arcading, formed of trefoil headed arches, resting on slender shafts of early English period. Each spandrel was formerly filled with a carving, and the series must have been quite equal to any of the groups of like carvings of the same period in other churches. Many of the carvings now existent are quite new, many others have been restored, of only a few can it be said that we have before us the old carving as it was originally executed. A figure of the Crucifixion which is on the east wall of the south aisle of the Lady Chapel is perhaps the most beautiful of the whole series, but all will repay close examination. The arrangement of the walls of the transepts is beautiful and well described by Willis. "Two lofty triplets of lancet lights are placed one above the other. The lower triplet has a gallery in front of it, immediately above the arcaded wall, and at the same level as the sill of the adjacent side aisle windows. The upper triplet has a similar gallery at the level of the triforium. Rich clustered shafts rise from the lower gallery in two orders; the inner order carries moulded arches to correspond with the heads of the lower triplets; the shafts of the outer order rise from the lower gallery up to the impost of the upper triplet, and uniting in one group of capitals at the impost, where they carry a range of three arches with deep rich mouldings. Thus the entire composition represents a gigantic window of six lights." From the south-eastern transept, the exterior of

Prince Arthur's Chantry

Prince Arthur's Chantry is well seen, and it will now be observed that within that portion of the screen which is prolonged down on the south side of the chapel to the level of the floor of the choir aisle, there are two altar tombs. One of these is that of a bishop, perhaps the Bishop Giffard, who placed the brass rings on the Purbeck shafts of the choir. This effigy is robed in full Episcopal vestments, which were once coloured, and the elaborate mitre seems to have been originally set with gems. The other figure is that of a lady in a close-fitting head-dress. In her right hand she holds a rosary, and her feet rest against a dog. There is some considerable doubt as to whom this figure represents, but it is probably the effigy of Maud or Matilda, daughter and heiress of Walter Baron de Clifford of Corfham. If so, this lady married (1st) William Longespée, the third of that name, and (2nd) Lord Giffard of Brimsfield, a relative of the bishop of that name, probably the person occupying the neighbouring tomb. According to other authorities, who base their belief upon certain armorial bearings which the robes of the lady were said formerly to have shown, the figure represents Andela, daughter and heiress of Griffin de Albo Monasterio, a natural son of William, sixth Earl of Warren and Surrey. If it be this lady, then she married John de Warren. Both these effigies seem to have been the work of the same artist, and the balance of evidence seems to be in favour of the supposition that they represent Bishop Giffard and his relative by marriage, Lady de

Clifford. In the centre of the south-east transept is what has been a fine altar tomb, rifled of its ancient brasses. These have been replaced by modern brasses made by Hardman, and a reproduction of the ancient inscription runs round the upper part of the tomb, and reads thus:—"Here in this Tombe lyeth buryed the bodye off the noble Kynght Syr Gryffyth Ryce Son to Syr Ryce ap Thomas Knyght which Syr Gryffyth decessyd the xxix day of Septembir In the xiiij yere of Kyng Henry the vii And also of Lady Katheryne h^{s} wife daught^{r} of Syr John Saynt John Knight which decessyd the — day — of An^{o} dm M^{o}CCCC^{o} — On whois soules And all x$\bar{y}$en souls Jh$\bar{u}$ have mercy AMEN." Placed obliquely against the wall, and not far from the tomb just mentioned, is a recumbent figure of a knight in chain armour, formerly, as existing traces show, coloured all over. The modern reproduction of the ancient inscription on brass reads: "Icy gist syr guilleaume de Harcourt fys robert de harcourt et de Isabelle de camvile."

The Lady Chapel has been most extensively restored, indeed the whole of the east wall, with the windows which it contains, is quite modern, as are the carvings with which it is decorated. It contains two modern cenotaphs with recumbent effigies, one of the late Earl of Dudley who did so much for the restoration of the church, and the other of George William, fourth Baron Lyttelton. In the south aisle of the chapel is one of the most beautiful monuments in the whole church,

the recumbent figure of a lady of the fourteenth century, her head resting on a square cushion and a dog lying at her feet. Britton assigns this tomb to a Lady Harcourt, but it is quite doubtful whom the figure may represent. On the north wall of the sacrarium of the Lady Chapel is a tablet of considerable interest, since the inscription is from the pen of Izaak Walton, the original MS. draft having been found on the fly-leaf of his Prayer-Book, which is in the British Museum. It commemorates his second wife, and runs thus:—

"Ex Terris.

M ✝ S

Here lyeth buryed so much as could dye, of ANNE, the wife of IZAAK WALTON, who was A woman of remarkeable prudence and of the *Primitive Piety*, her great and generall knowledge, being adorn'd with soe much *Christian meekeness*, as made her worthy of a more memorable Monument. She dyed (Alas that she is dead!) the 17th of Aprill 1662 Aged 52. Study to be like her."

Two effigies of bishops lie in the centre of the chapel and in front of the Communion Table. That on the south is supposed to be Walter de Cantelupe (ob. 1265). It is of Purbeck marble, and was originally set with jewels or stones of some kind. The figure on the north side is believed to be the predecessor of the last-named prelate,

William de Blois (ob. 1236). In the north aisle of the chapel is another episcopal effigy, which may either be Bishop Bryan (1361) or Bishop Lynn (1373). Two similar effigies lie in the north-east transept within pointed arches of the Decorated period. The prelate with his feet resting against two dogs is thought to be Bishop Cobham (1327); the other, at whose feet is a lion, is possibly Bishop Walter de Bransford (1349). There is, however, considerable doubt as to all these ascriptions. In the north aisle of the Lady Chapel is the cross-legged effigy of a knight, clad in chain-armour, and bearing a kite-shaped shield, which may be intended to represent Sir James de Beauchamp. Near this figure is a female effigy surrounded by a border or ornament of the thirteenth century: like the last-named figure this is of considerable size, and it is not known for whom it is intended. The last tomb which requires notice is one beneath the back of the reredos, which, though the question is not settled absolutely, is believed to bear the effigy of Philip Ballard de Hawford, the last abbot of Evesham. His history is not particularly creditable to himself. The last genuine abbot of Evesham was Clement Lichfield, who built the beautiful bell-tower which is still the glory of the little country-town. Seeing the approaching dissolution of the religious houses, Lichfield, at the instigation of Cromwell, resigned his post and retired to a manor house at Littleton which was one of the possessions of the abbey. On his resignation,

the king induced Hawford, a young monk of the house, to assume the title of abbot, so that the abbey might appear to have been surrendered voluntarily. Hawford had his reward, first in a pension and later on in being made Dean of Worcester, a position which he held from 1553-57. He is represented as fully robed and bearing a staff, but not a staff with a crook as would be proper for an abbot. The crypt is the work of Bishop Wulstan, and was built in 1084. It is apsidal in construction, and stands second in date amongst the four existing crypts of the same character, that of Winchester being earlier by seven years, and those of Gloucester and Canterbury being later by five and twelve years respectively. It presents a central portion thirty feet in width, with side aisles, and was provided with several chapels. The most noteworthy point connected with the crypt is the fact that it has an apse of seven bays, five being the number present generally, perhaps, one may say, with this exception, invariably. The aisles of this apse were walled up in 1504, so that some of the little columns are now concealed, that portion of the crypt being filled up with solid earth. Some four or five years ago excavations were made, exposing some of the columns which proved to be of the same pattern as the rest. It was thought unwise to disturb the earth lest harm should befall Prince Arthur's chantry above.

Amongst the many monks attached to the monastery and Cathedral during Catholic times,

there must have been many who were priests, and who would say Mass every morning. Hence the numerous altars in the crypt and the body of the church would be constantly in use. Even now the crypt is used from time to time for an occasional service. Canon Teignmouth-Shore remarks in connection with the pillars of the crypt, "Its supports are a series of very light pillars, the bases of which are considerably varied, there being six different forms of base, while the capitals are identical, with the exception of that of one single pillar, where some imaginative workman introduced a very simple and primitive form of decoration, possibly one of the very first attempts to add decoration to a style of architecture which theretofore had depended solely upon beauty of form. It is worth noting that in the Norman Chapel of La Paix at Caen (1061), the city famous for great churches erected by the Conqueror, there are ten different varieties of the bases of the pillars, which indicates an almost absolute identity of style between the Norman crypt in Worcester and the church in Normandy." It should be mentioned that the crypt is approached from the south-western transept.

The cloisters which are entered by two doors, both leading out of the south aisle of the nave, were in monastic times the place of meeting and study of the monks. The now open tracery was then filled with glass, which bore the arms of the priors and pictured legends of the saints. Here were the carrels or pews in which the

monks worked at the reproduction or illumination of copies of the Scriptures, religious books, chronicles of the time and such like literary labours. The cloisters do not quite form a true square, three of their sides being 120 feet in length, while the fourth—that on the east—is 125. The cloister garth on which the windows look out is 83 feet square. Willis, writing of the cloister, says, "Its outer walls are substantially Norman, but the architecture of the arcades and vaults is wholly of the fourteenth century, belonging to the period of Bishop Wakefield (1375-1394), when the nave of the church and so many other works were carried on. In Dr Hopkins' Notes we find, 'The Refectory and Cloyster built 1372,' which merely indicates that the works of these two were in progress at that date. It must be conjectured that the Norman cloister had a wooden roof resting on an arcaded stone wall, towards the central garth, as is the case now at Durham and Bristol and in other examples." The bosses of the vaulted roof are very good examples of their kind. Perhaps one of the most interesting things in the cloisters is the monks' lavabo or washing-place in the western alley, close to which are the remains of the doorway by which access was gained to the dormitory. A Norman passage leading out of this alley formerly formed a means of communication with the Infirmary. There is a second passage from the south alley, which originally passed under the eastern end of the refectory and led to what

was the outer court of the monastery, now represented by College Green. The outer archway to this passage is a fine example of Norman architecture. The slype, another passage from the east alley, close by the chapter-house, was a passage of communication with the Guesten-House or place of accommodation for strangers visiting the monastery. This passage has a plain arcading on either side of pure Norman character, though the pillars on the north side are apparently of pre-Conquest date and a relic of some earlier building. This passage is called in early records, locutorium hospitum, and was one of the various spots throughout the monastery where the monks might legitimately talk with strangers. At the west end of the north alley a spiral staircase leads up to the Library, the nucleus of which was formed soon after the Norman Conquest. It contains about 4000 printed books, amongst which some of the most interesting are a "Confessio Amantis," printed by Caxton at Westminster, 1483; three of Wynkyn de Worde's productions, dated respectively 1516, 1521, 1528, and a copy of Edward VI.'s Second Prayer-Book, printed at Worcester by Oswen, 1552. The only copy in England of Vacarius' Roman Law exists here in manuscript. There is a mutilated figure of an ecclesiastic in the cloisters which is believed to represent Alexander Neckham, an Abbot of Cirencester. Just outside the west door of entrance to the Cathedral is the celebrated stone inscribed with the single word "Miserrimus," concerning which

so much sentiment has been expended, and respecting which Wordsworth wrote the sonnet which follows :—

"'Miserrimus!' and neither name or date,
Prayer, text, or symbol, graven on the stone;
Nought but that word assigned to the unknown,
That solitary word to separate
From all, and cast a cloud around the fate
Of him who lies beneath. 'Most wretched one!'
Who chose his epitaph? Himself alone
Could thus have dared the grave to agitate,
And claim, among the dead, this awful crown;
Nor doubt that he marked also for his own,
Close to these cloistral steps, a burial-place,
That every foot might fall with heavier tread,
Trampling upon his vileness. Stranger, pass
Softly! To save the contrite Jesus bled."

The actual facts of the case hardly warrant the expenditure of so much feeling. The person thus strangely commemorated was the Rev. T. Morris, who was vicar of Claines and a minor canon of the Cathedral. Having refused to take the oath on the accession of William III., he was deprived of his benefices, and died at the age of 88, in 1748, "in great poverty," says Mr Strange; "Much respected and affluent, but inconsolable at the defeat of the Jacobite cause," says Murray. The present writer does not feel able to throw any light upon the question as to which of these two last-quoted statements gives the truer picture of the last days of the minor canon.

The chapter-house is entered from the eastern alley of the cloister. Mr Humphrey

Watts has given me the following interesting note about this building:—"The only Perpendicular work in the Chapter-House is the windows and the outside of the walls, the whole of the vault and the central pillar is *essentially late Norman*. Too much stress cannot be laid on this point. The famous central pillar of Worcester Chapter-House is the oldest in England, that is, of chapter-house pillars. The Chapter-House itself, 58 feet in diameter, is the only circular one now standing; there was one at Margam Abbey in Wales (Cistercian). While on the subject of chapter-houses, it may be mentioned that the circular or pentagonal form was not the common form of chapter-house, as is usually supposed. I once went to the trouble of making a complete list of all such chapter-houses, and found only fifteen in England, one in Wales, and one in Scotland. I append the list:—

Worcester Cathedral,	1140, circular, ten bays,	58	ft. dia.
Dore Abbey,	1180, duodecagon,	45	,,
Lincoln Cathedral,	1190-1230, decagon,	60	,,
Beverley Minster,	1230, octagon,	31	,,
Lichfield Cathedral,	1240, irregular decagon		
Westminster Abbey,	1250, octagon,	62	,,
Salisbury Cathedral,	1260, octagon,	62	,,
Wells ,,	1260-90, octagon,	52	,,
Southwell ,,	1280, octagon, no pillar,	31	,,
York ,,	1290-1310, octagon,	55	,,
Hereford ,,	1300, decagon,	42	,,
Evesham Abbey,	1250, octagon,	50	,,
Thornton ,,	octagon		
Cockersand ,, (Lancs.),	octagon		
Old St Paul's, London,	octagon		

WALES—		
Margam Abbey,	1160, circular,	49 ft. dia.
SCOTLAND—		
Elgin Cathedral,	octagon	

The English and Welsh list I will guarantee complete, *i.e.* apart from those that may have been entirely demolished so as to leave no trace of their existence. As for Scotland, there may be some more examples, but they are unknown to architectural and archæological literature. One more point must be noticed, viz., the central pillar. Whatever may be said in favour of its existence, sit where you like round the walls, and you will be discomforted by its intervening between you and the person opposite. The old architects felt this, we know, yet dared not vault the whole span without it. Only two examples exist where it has been managed. At York the vaulting is a sham, being executed in wood, exerting consequently little or no thrust. At Southwell the breadth was contracted to thirty-one feet, but the architect gained his object and vaulted the roof in stone without a central pillar. Southwell may thus be said to possess the finest Gothic Chapter-House in the world. The other eight or nine hundred Chapter-Houses in England were rectangular."

Some of the documents which are collected in this room are of great interest, amongst them being the last will of King John, in which he commends his soul to God and his body to St Wulstan. Here also is the Charter of St

Wulstan; and, the oldest document of all, a deed of grant from Uhtred Regulus Huicciorum, signed by Offa, King of the Mercians, and dated 770. The Huiccas or Huiccii were the occupants of the counties immediately around Worcester at the time in question.

Outside the Cathedral there are a few buildings which should be noted as connected with its earlier history. The gateway, called since the early part of the eighteenth century Edgar's Tower, though there is little doubt that it was really erected by King John in or about 1204, was originally the entrance to the castle, but afterwards became that of the monastery, and was called St Mary's Gate. The records of the diocese are stored in the rooms above the gateway, and amongst them is that valuable document, the bond entered into by Fulk Sandells and John Rychardson in connection with the marriage license of "William Shagspere and Anne Hathwey of Stratford 28 Nov. 25 Eliz."

An ivy-covered ruin, with fourteenth century window tracery, near the southern part of the east end of the Cathedral, is the remains of the once magnificent Guesten-Hall in which so many distinguished men must have enjoyed the hospitality of the monks in former days. It was for some time used as the Deanery, the interior having been divided up into separate rooms. In 1842 the present Deanery, which up to that date had been the Bishop's palace,

came into the possession of the Dean and Chapter, and the old building was abandoned to fall into its present ruinous state. The position of the monks' dormitories is now occupied by the residences of the canons, who are, in a certain sense, their successors.

The refectory of the monastery, standing upon a Norman basement or undercroft, is approached by a Norman passage and doorway from the cloisters, of which it occupies the entire of the south side. It is of the date 1372, and contains a fine sculptured reredos which was discovered in 1873, and appears to represent our Lord in the act of giving the blessing with the four Evangelists.

Leland in his "Itinerary" states that "there be 8 Parish Churches in the Towne, whereof St *Hellen* is counted the most ancient, and it was a Prebend before K. *Edgar's* Dayes to the Cathedrall Church of *Worcester*, and *Bloxham* in *Worcestershire* was Mother." In the days of Bishop Wulstan a dispute arose between Alfnoth, priest of this church, and Alam, priest of St Albans, as to which was the senior church, on which question a synod, which met in the crypt of the Cathedral, was held. Nash states that "in a synod held by Bishop Wulston, 1092, at Wigracestre, the old men were commanded to consult together, and to declare what they knew concerning the institutions and parishes of the said city, so that he might determine the controversy which had arisen between Alfnoth priest here and Alam priest of St Alban's; and after

consultation had, they returned to the holy synod, and affirmed that there was no parish in the whole city but that of the Mother Church, to which St Helen's had been a vicarage from the year 680, when the see was first founded." These two churches, with the others in the city, have been for the most part rebuilt, and most of them in the classical style. St Albans has transition Norman windows and arches, also a Norman bowl font. St Helens was restored in 1882. It possesses memorials to Nash, who founded alms-houses in the city, also to Colonel Dodo Dudley (ob. 1684), and Anne Fleete (ob. 1600).

St Andrews is distinguished by a tall and very slender spire, 155 feet in height, which was rebuilt in 1751, and is carried by a tower 90 feet in height. St Nicholas in the centre of the city has been rebuilt in the Anglo-Italian style, White, the architect of the City Hall, and pupil of Sir Christopher Wren, having been responsible for its design. Nash gives a curious account of an early controversy between the priest of this church and the master of the boys' school. He says of this church: "I take it to have been built upon the return of our countrymen from the first Holy War, and dedicated to St Nicholas, bishop and confessor of Mirea in Lycia, the celebrated patron of that time in all dangers, especially at sea, through whose intercession they fancied they had escaped a shipwreck. His festival is kept on the 6th of December, on which day the scholars of Wor-

cester school came annually with lighted wax candles in their hands, and there assisted at mass and vespers; which finished, some of the scholars usually gave their candles to the rector; and others refusing so to do, he summoned them into the ecclesiastical court, claiming a right to the same, which controversy between Walter, then rector, and Stephen Low, then schoolmaster of the said school, was thus ended by bishop Giffard, 5 kal. Jun. 1291: That the scholars should attend at the church of St Nicholas as usual on the feast-day of that Saint; that neither the rector nor the master should have any right to the candles, but that the master and scholars, or the greatest part of them, might, out of pure devotion, give them to the rector: and because the schoolmaster was chiefly concerned in providing these candles, vespers ended, he might if he pleased, without any contradiction from anybody, deliver the same, in the presence of the rector and three of the discreetest of his scholars, to any trusty citizen, or merchant of Worcester, in order to be returned to them the next anniversary festival, with a supply of what should be then further wanting; and if any dispute should arise, the archdeacon of Worcester, or his official, to determine the same."

The Commandery is a rather interesting building with a very misleading name. It might be imagined that the place had once been of a military character, or at least in the possession of one of the semi-militant or semi-religious

orders of knighthood. But it was really only an alms-house of which the head had the unusual title of the Commander. Like scores of other such charitable foundations throughout the country, it fell into the greedy clutches of the ruthless Henry VIII., who on the pretence that it was a religious foundation, absorbed the revenues and sold the building to one Wylde, a clothier, for the sum of £498. Leland says of this building and foundation: "There is a fair suburb without *Sudbury* Gate, and it was a Hospitall called *St Wolstan*. Some called it a Commanderye, where was a Mr Preistes, and Poore Men. some saye that it was originally of the Foundation of the Queene. One *Carter* a Marchant of *Worcester*, gave of late tymes Landes unto it, and thereby renewed the ould Foundation, and in this Almes wer divers Merchant Men of *Worcester* fallen in decaye and also releived. *Mauresine* hath suppressed this House, and now a Clothier dwelleth in it." The building still exists in Sidbury, a portion of the great hall being the principal remaining feature of interest. Besides this ancient building there are a number of old houses, mostly dating from the seventeenth century, scattered about the less frequented streets of the city, such as Friar and Lich Streets.

The Guildhall is a rather striking building, built in 1721 from the designs of White, an architect of whom mention has already been made. He received an annual life pension of £30 from the city for his labours in connection

THE GUILDHALL, WORCESTER

with this hall. Over the doorway is a carving of the city arms, with the inscription "Floreat semper fidelis civitas," a well-earned title. Figures of Charles I. and Charles II. stand on either side of the entrance, and between the two central windows is a figure of Queen Anne, which was carved by White himself, and formerly stood on a pedestal in front of the older building which the present Guildhall replaced. On the parapet of the façade are five figures, Justice in the centre, with Peace and Labour on her right, and Plenty and Chastisement on her left. The hall contains some armour and two brass cannon, one of which was used at the battle of Worcester. There are also some pictures, notably one of George III., presented by that monarch when he made his famous visit to the city.

The Victoria Institute is partly a school of science and art, and partly a picture-gallery and museum. Here are not only a number of interesting and valuable pictures illustrative of the past history of the city and of royal and other personages who have been connected with it, but an admirable museum of local geological specimens and of antiquities collected in the county. When one reflects upon the mouldering and neglected state of so many county collections, it is a real pleasure to walk through the bright, well-arranged rooms of this model museum.

The Royal Worcester Porcelain Works is another place which must by no means be missed, for not only can the whole process of manufac-

ture of this celebrated ware be seen, but there is a museum of ceramics which will repay careful study. The history of these works has already been dealt with, so that here it will only be necessary to mention a few points about the place itself. The various processes shown are samples of the work being carried on in the manufactory, and include those of grinding the various materials used in the production of the porcelain, making them into "slip," the shaping of the same, decorating and firing. The museum contains a most interesting collection commencing with pottery of the Roman period, made also at Worcester, and close to where the Porcelain Works now stand. Mediæval kiln products are illustrated by tiles from the Malvern pottery alluded to in the chapter on that place. There are a number of valuable specimens of Japanese work. But naturally the main part of the collection consists of specimens of the various kinds of ware turned out by the porcelain manufacturers of Worcester during the long continuance of this manufacture in the city. Here are to be seen specimens of the blue and white, the transfer work, and the more gorgeous services such as that manufactured for the Prince Regent. The various marks which from time to time have been used by this manufactory can also be studied, and, in fact, the entire history of one of the world's great manufactories of china is made clear to the visitor. An excellent illustrated catalogue of the collection has been drawn up by the late Mr Binns, F.S.A.

Worcester is connected with the opposite bank of the Severn by a fine wide bridge, which replaces the "Royal Peice of Worke, high and stronge," with six arches, of Leland's time. This earlier bridge having become insufficient for the traffic and much out of repair, it was decided to take steps to improve it towards the latter part of the eighteenth century. Many desired that the old bridge should be repaired, but it was finally decided to construct a new one. The then members of Parliament for the city subscribed £3000 towards this object, and the new bridge, which was built somewhat lower down the river than its predecessor, was opened in 1780. In order that the remainder of the cost should be defrayed it was necessary to impose a toll on those using it, but after about fifty years had elapsed this was no longer necessary, and the bridge has been free since 1827.

The visitor to Worcester will not fail to notice the great meadow near the river, called Pitchcroft, and reminding one of the somewhat similar spot at Chester called Roodeye, like this again in that it is used as a race-course.

CHAPTER V

FROM MALVERN TO HEREFORD — LEDBURY — STOKE-EDITH — HISTORY OF HEREFORD

THE road from Malvern to Hereford passes the steep descent to Little Malvern Priory, and ascends the hill by the British Camp and the house formerly occupied by Madame Jenny Lind. As Ledbury is approached the traveller will be struck with the unusually large amount of mistletoe which can be seen growing in the trees, and particularly in those to his right hand as he descends the hill to the little market-town. Ledbury is a place of considerable antiquity, for in Domesday Book it appears as Leide-berg, and was then an appanage of the See of Hereford, whose bishop had a palace situated on the plot of ground now occupied by St Catherine's Hospital. It was of sufficient importance in 1265 to return two burgesses to Parliament, but this privilege was only retained for forty years. After the lapse of that time Ledbury found the task of supporting two members of Parliament more than it cared to undertake, and petitioned to be disenfranchised. King Stephen granted the town a market on Saturdays, a favour which was continued to it by Charter of Queen Elizabeth

LEDBURY

E.H.NEW

in 1584. During the Civil War Ledbury was an important centre of operations, and one smart engagement, sometimes dignified by the name of a battle, was fought here in 1645. Prince Rupert, who, in April of that year was stationed at Hereford, made a forced march to encounter the Parliamentary troops who were advancing from Gloucester, and came into touch with them in the town of Ledbury, in the streets and churchyard of which the contest raged, until the rebel forces being put to flight, Rupert was able to resume his march upon Ludlow. Many marks of bullets are shown on the church, and the actual missiles themselves have been extracted from the doors of the church and other places in the town. There are a number of rather interesting old houses in Ledbury, and the view down the principal street is very picturesque, but probably the objects which will attract the attention most are the market-house and the church. The first-named of these two objects has been so much restored as to be nearly a new building, but it still stands upon the sixteen great pillars of chestnut-wood, which are said to have been brought here from the neighbouring chase of Malvern. The original edifice is believed to have been erected in the time of Queen Elizabeth, by John Abell, a builder of considerable note at the time.

The church is a fine but much restored building, distinguished from all but a few similar edifices by having a detached tower and spire. The latter is modern, but the base belongs to

the early English period. The structure stands on the north side of the church. There is a Norman door at the west end of the church, and the chancel shows evidences of work of the same period. The nave is mainly of the Perpendicular period. There are a number of monuments of the Biddulphs and other persons, some of which are worth examination, but the most interesting feature about the church is the north chapel dedicated to St Catherine, and presenting a series of windows of the Decorated period enriched to a remarkable extent with the ball-flower ornament, so characteristic of that period and of this district. But the point of chief interest about this chapel is that it is dedicated to a purely local saint, if the long-standing tradition of the district is to be believed. There are several saints of the name of Catherine, besides Catherine of the Wheel, but the legendary saint of Ledbury is one who has so far penetrated, as far as the present writer is aware, into no menology, and affords an interesting example of the purely local cultus of some holy person. Catherine Audley, who lived in the time of Edward II., is the person to whom this chapel is said to be dedicated. The tale is that she settled down at Ledbury because she was told to remain at a place where the church bells at her coming should ring without the agency of human hands, and such is declared to have happened here. Her maid Mabel accompanied her and settled down in the neighbourhood, each occupying a kind of little hermitage and subsisting on herbs and milk. "Blessed Cathe-

rine of Ledbury," as she came to be called, seems to have attracted a great deal of attention on account of her piety and good works, and Camden tells us that the King, "on consideration of her birth or piety, or both, granted her an annuity of £30." Near the town there are still two adjacent pieces of ground, known respectively as "Catherine's Acre," and "Mabel's Furlong," and there is also a Hospital of St Catherine in the High Street, which seems to have been founded by Bishop Hugh Folliott in 1232; but if the ascription of that building is contemporaneous with its foundation, it must belong to another St Catherine than her of Ledbury. The Ledbury saint is also associated with some curious markings in the sandstones of Sapey and Whelpley Brooks, which are locally believed to have been made by the feet of the mare and colt by which she was conveyed to Ledbury. In the churchyard, but without any monument to mark the spot, lie the remains of Jacob Tonson, the publisher, who brought out the works of Otway, Dryden and Pope, and was associated with the Kit-Cat Club. He retired towards the latter end of his life to an estate named the Hazels, which he owned near Ledbury, and there died in 1736. Ledbury House is a half-timbered mansion which has belonged to the Biddulph family for two centuries, and in the park which surrounds it are some of the finest elms which are to be seen in any part of this island. Before leaving Ledbury, it is interesting to recall the fact that it

is one of the many places in England which once produced a wine of its own, a wine, too, which must have been fairly well esteemed in its time, for it is recorded that in 1288, seven pipes of the Vinea de Ledebur were valued at £8 per pipe.

Stoke-Edith further along the road to Hereford is the home of the Foley family and stands in a park which was designed and laid out by the well-known landscape gardener, Repton. The place is said to derive its name from St Aedyth, Aedgyth or Edith, to use the modern spelling, who was daughter to King Eadgar, a natural daughter by one Wulfryth, afterwards abbess of the great Convent at Wilton near to Salisbury. In this religious house her daughter was brought up and there she remained until her 23rd year, when she died and was buried in the church of St Denis in Wilton, which she had herself caused to be built. The effigy in the church at Stoke-Edith, sometimes said to be that of the saint, is the tomb of some other person, possibly a member of the Walwyn family. This estate, which passed from the Millwaters to the Lingens by marriage, was purchased by Paul Foley, seven times M.P. for Hereford, who was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons in 1695. His son was likewise M.P. for Hereford in seven successive parliaments, and his grandson, who represented the county for a time, was elevated to the peerage. In the house are preserved certain relics associated with the infamous Villiers, Duke of Buck-

HEREFORD

ingham, including a dagger said to have been the weapon with which he was stabbed by Fenton. The church was rebuilt in the Doric style in 1740 at the expense of the Thomas Foley of the period. Near to the Rectory is a well which bears the name of St Edith, and close to it, during the Parliamentary Wars, the then Vicar of Tarrington, one Mr Praulph, was shot by a soldier of the Roundhead forces. The district between Ledbury and Hereford is at its best during the early autumn, when the apple orchards and the hop-gardens are a sight to gladden the eyes.

HEREFORD itself is not a place of the high antiquity of some other English cities. There is no evidence that there was ever any British settlement at this spot, and the Roman predecessor, if so it may be described, of Hereford, was situated at some little distance from the present city. This Roman station was named Castra Magna, and there can be little doubt that it occupied the position where now stands the village of Kenchester, one and a half miles from Hereford. This village is situated on a Roman Road called the Watling Street, which passes the three Strettons, places which derive their names from their proximity to the Via. It also traverses Leintwardine, the Roman Bravinium, and having passed Kenchester it terminated at Caerleon-on-Usk. At Wroxeter, the Roman Uriconium, this street meets its more famous namesake which ran from London to Chester. At Kenchester have been found many remains

belonging to the period of the Roman occupation and, as it was a walled town, there can be little doubt that it was a place of some importance in its time. After the departure of the Roman legions and the reduction of the native British, Magna practically came to an end, nor was any new city erected upon its ruins as was the case with Chester and other cities which occupy the exact position of their Roman predecessor. The existing city of Hereford would then appear to have been of Saxon foundation, but the precise date of its origin is quite unknown. There is also great doubt as to the signification of its name, many surmises having been made concerning this point. Leland says "The name of *Hereford* Towne of some in *Welsh* is called *Heurford* of an ould Ford by the Castle, by the which many passed over, or ever the great Bridge on *Wye* at *Hereford* was made. Some calle *Hereford* in *Welsh Trefawth à fagis quarum copia in agro illo crescebat.*" Camden thought that the original name was Henfford, the old road or way, and that the Saxons altered the name to one that had a meaning in their own tongue, a very doubtful suggestion. However this may be, there can be no doubt that there was a place of some importance here in the seventh century, for at that date the see was established or perhaps only re-established. According to the Rev. Francis Havergal "the Welsh claim a high antiquity for Hereford as the recognised centre of Christianity in this district. Archbishop Usher asserts

that it was the seat of an Episcopal See in the sixth century, when one of its bishops attended a synod convened by the Archbishop of Caerleon (A.D. 544). In the 'Lives of the British Saints' (Rev. W. J. Reeves, 1853), we learn that Geraint ap Erbin, cousin of King Arthur, who died A.D. 542, is said to have founded a church at Caerffawydd, the ancient British name for Hereford. In Wilkin's 'Concilia,' i. 24, it is recorded that beyond all doubt a Bishop of Hereford was present at the conference with St Augustine, A.D. 601. Full particulars are given of the supposed time and place of this conference. It is also stated:—'In secunda affuisse perhibentur septem hi Britannici episcopi Herefordensis, Tavensis alias Llantavensis, Paternensis, Banchoriensis, Chirensis alias Elinensis, Uniacensis alias Wiccensis, Morganensis.' It is styled 'Synodus Wigornensis,' or according to Spelman, 'Pambritannicam.' Nothing whatever is known of the names or of the number of British bishops who presided over the earliest church at Hereford." If all or part of this is true, then the later bishopric which was founded under circumstances yet to be detailed, was, as has above been said, the re-establishment of an ancient See. What seems clear and certain is that in 680 Sexwulf, then Bishop of Lichfield, sent to Hereford and established there as its bishop, one Putta, who had previously been Bishop of Rochester, and this fixes what may fairly be considered to be the earliest limit of the See of Hereford, as it is

known to history. The ecclesiastical history of Hereford will be dealt with in its own place, and must not now be further pursued, but it has been necessary to make thus much mention of it here, since in its history is contained the earliest information which we possess as to the city, for clearly the bishopric would not have been established in a place quite without importance. During the Heptarchy, the strongest of the Mercian kings, Offa, whose name is so closely linked with the great dyke which it is quite possible he did not erect, had his palace about three miles from Hereford, which must from that fact alone have been a place of some importance at the time. It was at this palace that the murder of Aethelberht took place. Aethelberht, who was King of the East Angles, had been promised the daughter of Offa, Aethelthryth, in marriage, and visited this district for the purpose of taking home his bride. What the incentive to the crime may have been, and whether it was actually perpetrated by Offa or by Cynethryth, his wife, is not known, though there are many legends on the subject. The bald statement made by the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* reads, "792. This year Offa, King of the Mercians, commanded the head of King Aethelberht to be struck off." In any case the young King became recognised as a saint after his death, and many marvels were said to have taken place at his tomb. Indeed, according to Asser, Offa, who had added the kingdom which had belonged to Aethelberht to

his own, sent two bishops to Hereford as a commission to inquire into the validity of the miracles which were said to be taking place. After Offa's death, Milfrid, the viceroy of the Mercian King Ecgberht, erected a church of considerable importance for the period, described as "Ecclesiam egregiam, lapidea structura," at Hereford, which was dedicated to the saint, and richly endowed with lands and money. So that Aethelberht may be looked upon in a certain sense as the cause of the foundation of the Cathedral of Hereford. William of Malmesbury relates that this part of Mercia afterwards fell under the power of the kings of Wessex, and that these monarchs made generous gifts to the church and city of Hereford. During the period of decline of Mercia the district was certainly on two occasions overrun by the Danes, and at a later date, the Britons, taking courage, also made incursions as far as Hereford. Aethelstan at last was obliged to bring a strong force against them, by means of which he compelled his adversaries to conclude a treaty with him at Hereford, by which they became liable to a heavy annual tribute of money, cattle, hawks and hounds. This treaty was made in the year 939, at which time Duncomb thinks that it is probable that the city was for the first time fortified with walls, where it was not already defended by the River Wye. At any rate after this period the records contain mention from time to time that the walls were re-built or repaired. The walls have almost entirely dis-

appeared, being represented by some inconspicuous fragments. The six gates were all pulled down during the eighteenth century, but even in Leland's time they must have been of considerable importance, for he says of Hereford in this connection, "The Towne itselfe is in compasse within the Walles a good Mile. There be in the Walles of *Hereford* 6. Gates: *Wye Gate; Frere Gate* standeth West, soe called of the *Grey Fryers* House standinge without; *Inne Gate* standing towardes West North West; *Wigmarsh Gate* flat North; (*Wigmarch* is a Marsh Ground a litle without the Suburbe:) *Bishops Street Gate* North East; *St Andrewes Gate* by East, soe called of St *Andrewes* Parish in the Suburbes without this Gate. There is a little Brooke that cometh a 5. miles by West from *Hereford*, and so circuith the Ditches of *Hereford* Towne Walles, *ubi non defenditur vaga*, and goeth downe leavinge the Castle on the right Hand, and there drieving 2 Miles for Corne goeth into *Wye* a flyte Shoote beneath *Wye* Bridge and hard beneath the Castle. The Walles and Gates of *Hereford* be right well maintained by the Burgesses of the Towne. The common Voice is that the Towne was scant fortified with Walles at such time as *Griffin* Prince of *Wales* destroyed the Towne and killed the Bishop *Leofgarye* and his Clerkes by the Assistance and Consent of *Algarus* Sonne to *Leofric* E. of *Merches*." The battle just alluded to took place in 1055, when Earl Ranulph or Ralph was the castellan

of Hereford, if indeed that place then possessed anything worthy of being called a castle. The fight took place outside the city, whose garrison was eventually driven back within their fortifications. There they were followed by their victorious foes, and great slaughter and pillage took place. According to the Welsh chronicles, "the Britons returned home with many worthy prisoners, great triumph, and rich spoils, leaving nothing in the town but blood and ashes, and the walls rased to the ground." Harold Godwinsson was immediately sent by King Eadweard the Confessor to avenge this insult, but he failed to bring the Britons to battle. Returning to Hereford, he, we are told, "caused a great trench to be cast about the town, with a high rampire, strongly fortifying the gates of the same." Whether, therefore, there were any earlier walls or not, it is probable that to Harold the city owed the most important part of its defences at the time of the Norman Conquest. It is also possible that he may at this time have founded the castle which afterwards existed at that place. It is quite likely that there may have been a kind of earthen fortress, of the kind known as a buhr, either before his coming or constructed by him, for such strong places were common throughout the land, and there were a number along the Welsh Marches. Leland says, "Some think that *Heraldus* began this Castle, after that he had conquered the Rebellion of the *Welshmen* in Kinge *Edward the Confessour's* tyme. Some

thinke that the *Lacies* E. of *Hereford* were the great Makers of it, and the *Bohuns* E. of *Hereford.* It hath beene decayed since the *Bohunes* tyme." The latter part of Leland's statement seems to be incorrect, but it is probable that Harold built or strengthened a buhr at Hereford, and certain that later Norman occupants of the place erected there a strong and important castle. Of this castle nothing now remains; but that part which was originally its lower or outer bailey is now converted into a charming public garden, bordered by the waters of the River Wye, and called the Castle Green. It lay to the south and east of the city, and close to the Cathedral, for the defence of which it seems to have been designed rather than for that of the town itself. It was protected by the Wye on the south, and by a deep moat on the north and east. It had two courts or baileys, in the smaller of which, that towards the west, was the keep. We are again indebted to Leland for a description of what this fortification looked like at the time when he made his Itinerary.

"*The Castle* of Hereford.

"The Dungeon of the Castle is high and very stronge, havinge in the utter Wall or Warde 10. Towers *forma semicirculari*, and one great Towre in the inner Ward. There was a great Bridge of Stone Arches, and a Drawe Bridge in the Midle of it, to enter into the Castle. It is now cleane downe. There

is a fayre Chappell of St *Cuthbert*, in the East Part whereof is made *opere circulari*. There were sometimes Prebendes; but one of the *Lacyes* translated them thence into St *Peter's* in *Hereford* Towne, and that Colledge was there translated into the East Suburbe of *Hereford*, and a Priory of Monkes erected there, and made a Cell to *Gloucester*. There is a fayre and plentifull Springe of Water in the Castle, and that and the peice of the Brooke comminge out of the Ditch did drive a Mille within the Castle. The Walles of it be high and stronge, and full of great Towres, but now the wholl Castle tendeth towardes ruine. It hath beene one of the fayrest, largest and strongest Castles in *England*. It hath 2. Wardes, and each of them environed with Water. There came a Arme of a Brooke that runneth through a great peice of the Towne Dike by an Arch made in the Towne Wall into the Castle Dike, and soe compassinge halfe the Castle went into Wye; soe that with the principall Arme of this Brooke, and with the Arme of it goinge through the Castle Dike, and with the maine Streame of *Wye* River, the whole Castle was environed; but now the Arme of the Brooke cometh not through the Castle, yet might it soone be returned thither. The second Warde where the Dungeon is was also environed with Water. For a peice of the Water that came through the Ditch was turned that way."

The Castle of Hereford from this time of

course becomes the centre of the city from a military point of view, and in the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maude it was several times attacked, being held first in the interests of the Empress. Stephen, however, succeeded in reducing this and the neighbouring castle of Weobley, and is said to have made a magnificent entry into the city, and to have heard Mass in the Cathedral on Whitsunday, wearing his crown. Henry II. granted "the mote of Hereford, with the whole castel, and the third penny of the revenue of the pleas of the whole county of Hereford," to Roger, son of Milo, Earl of Hereford, but this ingrate having joined with Hugh de Mortimer of Wigmore in an insurrection against his King, was deprived of his honours, and the Earldom reverted to the crown and was for some time in its hands. It was to Hereford that John retired on the invasion of this country by Louis, Prince of France. During the contest between Henry III. and his rebellious barons, Hereford Castle was the scene of an incident which has frequently been described, the escape of Prince Edward, the eldest son of the King. Peter de Montfort, son of the great Simon, was at this time custos of the castle, to which the young prince was conveyed by Simon, who had taken him prisoner at the battle of Lewes. "During his confinement," says Duncomb, "he was permitted to exercise himself on horseback, in a meadow called Wide-marsh, which is situated on the north side of the town. By this indulgence he so far

profited as to open a communication with his father's friends in these parts, and the necessary arrangements being previously made, he took advantage of a swift horse, or, as some writers relate, procured a fresh one, after fatiguing those of his guard, and rode in full speed towards Wigmore Castle, accompanied by two knights and four esquires, who were privy to his intentions. The keepers pursued, but finding the Lords Mortimer and Clifford, with a body of men, ready to receive and protect him, they returned to Hereford. His escape was effected on the vigil of Trinity (28 May); it is somewhat differently related by Collins, who states that, according to previous agreement, the prince, on sight of a person mounted on a white horse, and waving his bonnet, on a neighbouring height, made towards him with all speed, and was received as before mentioned." However, the escape was actually made, it was arranged by Gilbert de Clare, the Earl of Gloucester, who had quarrelled with de Montfort's sons, and who was irritated that he was not allowed as large a share in the government of the country as he imagined to be his due. In 1326, during the troubled reign of Edward II., Hereford was the scene of the execution of some of the King's most important adherents, for the Queen and Roger de Mortimer, having been successful in their attack upon the sovereign, brought some of their captives here, and the younger Despencer was "hanged here on a gallows fifty feet high, as were also Sir Simon de Reding, another

minister of state, in the same reign, John, Earl of Arundel, John Daniel, and Thomas de Michaeldure, great friends of the Earl of Gloucester."

From this date it seems as if the castle began to fall into decay, one reason for this occurrence being that the incursions of the Welsh having practically come to an end, it was no longer of its first importance. During the Wars of the Roses Hereford itself was not a centre of any great importance, but after the battle of Mortimer's Cross, Owen Tudor, the husband of Catherine of France, was taken prisoner, and with nine other officers of rank executed in Hereford. As we have already learnt from Leland's description, the castle was much out of repair in the reign of Henry VIII. At the commencement of the Parliamentary Wars, Hereford and the district around was for the most part favourable to the cause of the King, though a substantial minority adhered to the opposite party. However, the city itself is described by Clarendon as "a town very well affected, and reasonably well fortified, having a strong stone wall about it, and some cannon, and there being in it some soldiers of good reputation, many gentlemen of honour and quality, and three or four hundred soldiers, besides the inhabitants well armed." Lord Herbert, having sustained a severe defeat at the hands of the Parliamentarians near Gloucester, the garrison of Hereford became so dispirited that they surrendered the town to Sir William Waller

on his appearance before it. Waller did not long occupy the city, which he does not seem to have considered of much importance, and after his departure it was again garrisoned for the King by Barnabas Scudamore. After the battle of Naseby, Prince Rupert retired to Hereford, and afterwards to Wales, whilst the city was invested by the Earl of Leven with a body of Scotch troops. This siege was raised by the King himself, almost the last success which waited upon his banners. Finally the city was again taken by stratagem by the Parliamentarians as is recorded by Whitelock in his Memoirs. "Dec. 26, 1645. Letters from Colonel Birch informed the particulars of the taking of Hereford: that he hired six men, and put them in the form of labourers, and a constable with them, with a warrant to bring these men to work in the town; that in the night he lodged these men within three quarters musket-shot of the town, and one hundred and fifty firelocks near them: and himself with the foot, and Colonel Morgan with the horse, came up in the night after them, and cut off all intelligence from coming to the town, so that they were never discovered; that one night they came too short, but the next night, with careful spies and scouts, they carried on the business, and in the morning, upon letting down the drawbridge, the six countrymen and the constable went with their pick-axes and spades to the bridge; that the guard beginning to examine them, they killed three of the guard, and kept the

rest in play till the firelocks came up to them, and then made it good till the body came up, who entered the town with small loss and became masters of it." From this date the history of Hereford contains nothing of special interest, and this part of the subject may well be concluded by a tale extracted from that storehouse of curious anecdotes Aubrey's "Miscellanies." "One Lambert, a gunsmith at Hereford, was at Caermarthen, to mend and put in order the ammunition of that county, before the expedition to Scotland, which was in 1639. He was then a young man, and walking on the sand by the sea-side, a man came to him (he did verily believe it was a man) and asked him if he knew Hereford? yes, quoth he, I am a Hereford man. Do you know it well? quoth the other; perfectly well, quoth Lambert. 'That city shall be begirt (he told me he did not know what the word begirt meant then) by a foreign nation, that will come and pitch their camp in the Hay-wood, and they shall batter such a gate, which they did (I have forgot the name of it), and shall go away and not take it.' The Scots came in 1645 and encamped before Hereford in the Hay-wood, and stormed the — gate, and raised the siege. Lambert did well remember this discourse, but did not heed it till they came to the Hay-wood. Many of the city had heard of this story, but when the — gate was stormed, Lambert went to all the guards of the town and encouraged them with more than ordinary confidence; and contrary to

all human expectation, when the besieged had no hope of relief, the Scots raised the siege, September 2, 1645, and went back into Scotland *re-infecta*. I knew this Lambert, and took this account from his own mouth; he is a modest, poor man, of a very innocent life, lives poor, and cares not to be rich." Before passing to the history of the See and the Cathedral it may be well to mention the names of a few of the most distinguished citizens of Hereford, and the list may be headed by that of Miles Smith, afterwards Bishop of Gloucester from 1612 to 1624, the son of an arrow-maker in this city. He was one of the principal persons concerned in the translation of the Bible. John Gwillim, the author of one of the best known works on heraldry, "A Display of Heraldrie," was born here in 1565. Nell Gwynne was born in Pipe Lane, and David Garrick in an inn then known as the "Angel" in Widemarsh Street. Hereford also had the fortune to own two of the most celebrated caligraphers of their period, John Davies, and his pupil, John Gethinge, of which couple Fuller wrote, "Sure am I that when two such transcendent penmasters shall again be born in the same shire, they may even serve fairly to engross the will and testament of the expiring universe."

As has already been mentioned, the first cathedral of which we have any certain knowledge at Hereford was that erected by Milfrid in 825, but beyond the fact that there was such a building and that it was constructed of stone, we

know nothing about it. It seems, however, to have fallen into complete decay by 1012 for at that date Bishop Athelstan found it necessary to build a new church. This edifice was destroyed by Alfgar, Earl of Chester, and Gruffydd, a Welsh king, shortly after its erection, namely in 1055, and from this date until 1079 it remained in ruins. The then bishop, Robert de Losinga, at the latter date began to rebuild his cathedral, it is said in a circular shape like the basilica at Aix-la-Chapelle. If this report be true then all trace of this church has completely vanished, and the Norman work which we now find in the cathedral is of the characteristic English type. Raynelm, bishop from 1107 to 1115, continued the work and established the chapter of canons, who were to be responsible for the conduct of the services. The further additions to the building will be dealt with in the next chapter, but the subject must not be left without a word or two as to the later history of the cathedral. Like so many of its sisters in the country it suffered severely at the hands of the Puritans. After the taking of the city described above, the cathedral was severely dealt with. All the windows which had been spared by the Reformers were smashed to bits, the brasses were pulled up, the manuscripts in the library carried off, and the ornaments, which even the greed of the Reformers had spared, were stolen. It is scarcely necessary to say that the next injury which the building was to meet with came from its own protectors, for in the

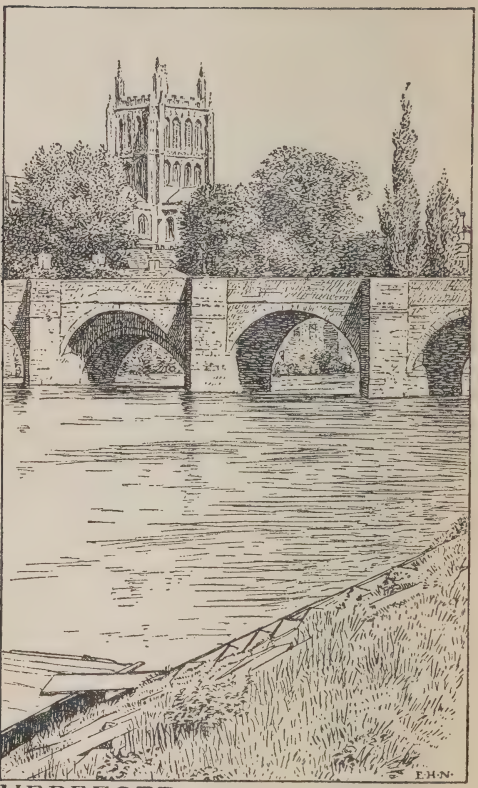
beginning of the eighteenth century a certain Bishop Bisse did great damage in carrying out what he supposed to be beneficial alterations in the cathedral. In 1786 the great west tower fell down and destroyed the whole of that front of the cathedral and a part of the nave. There raged at that time a devastator, under the guise of an architect, whose name was Wyatt, and those who know Salisbury Cathedral and have formed any idea of what that building was like before Wyatt was let loose upon it, never utter that name without adding a hearty malediction upon its owner. Fresh from his destruction at Salisbury, Wyatt was entrusted with the restoration of Hereford, and he certainly made the best use of his opportunities. "He altered the whole proportion of the building, shortening the nave by a bay of 15 feet, erected a new west front on a 'neat Gothic pattern,' and availed himself of the chance of removing all the Norman work in the nave, above the nave arcade substituting a design of his own. One of the strangest items in his scheme was a plaster hod moulding round each of the arches above the arcade. These eccentricities were removed not long since, but the roughened lines for adhesion of the plaster still remain. Inside the west front may also be seen large spaces of wall painted to represent blocks of stone, but no more so in reality than the walls of any stucco residence" (Fisher). A later restoration of a more conservative character, which replaced as far as was possible the former state of affairs in the

church, was undertaken at the instigation of Bishop Musgrave, appointed to the See in 1837. At the completion of this restoration in 1863 the cathedral was left practically in the condition in which we now find it.

There appear to have been some twenty-nine Bishops of Hereford prior to the Norman Conquest, but of none of them have any facts of note to be narrated. Of the later bishops there are some few of whom some special mention should be made. Peter of Savoy, better known under the name of Aquablanca, whose monument is one of the most beautiful in the cathedral, ruled over Hereford from 1240 to 1268. He was a native of Aqua Bella, near Chambéry, and was appointed at the instigation of Henry III., who always showed a preference for foreigners in his selection of bishops. He enjoyed the distinction of being perhaps the most unpopular man of his time, and one of the worst of the King's advisers. He was a most generous donor to the cathedral, the north transept of which was built by him. During the wars of the Barons he was seized in his cathedral, and carried off with his canons, who were all related to him in one way or another, to Eardisley Castle, where the moneys which he had recently extracted during a journey in Ireland were taken from him and divided amongst his captors. Tradition relates that he was once captured by Robin Hood, and denuded of all the property which he had about him at the time.

Thomas de Cantilupe, better known perhaps as St Thomas of Hereford, the last Englishman to be canonised by the Holy See, was elected bishop in 1275, and continued in that office until 1282, when he died on his way home from a journey to Rome. His bones were brought back to England, and for a long time lay under the shrine erected for him in the north transept. He was a man of the most saintly life, and jealous for the rights of his see. It was with him that Gilbert de Clare had the violent dispute in connection with the rights of each to the Chase of Malvern, of which mention has been made in an earlier chapter. Forty years after his death he was canonised, and many miracles are said to have been worked at his tomb. The See of Hereford has since his time borne the arms of Cantilupe, instead of those properly and originally belonging to it, in token of the reverence which was felt for this great bishop. Bishop Adam Orleton (1316-1327) it was who took King Edward II. at Neath Abbey and carried him to Kenilworth Castle. Edward Foxe (1535-1538), according to Fuller, "the principal pillar of the Reformation," was the author of the book called "The Difference between the Kingly and the Ecclesiastical Power," which Henry VIII. wished it to be believed had been his own work. It was this bishop who originally introduced Cranmer to Henry VIII. Hoadley, whose history is more intimately connected with the other sees which he subsequently held, was

translated here from St Asaph, but was only bishop from 1721-1723. Another bishop whose views have excited in their time ardent controversy was the celebrated or notorious, according to the view taken of him by the reader, Hampden, over whose appointment such a storm raged, and whose doings are set out at length in the various books dealing with the so-called Oxford movement. "He was appointed in 1847 by Lord John Russell, and for the first time since the Reformation 'a struggle took place between the recommending minister and a large and influential part of the clergy and laity of the church, who regarded Dr Hampden's opinions as heretical.' Lord John Russell refused to withdraw the appointment, and it was eventually carried out in spite of all remonstrances; not, however, until the question had been taken from the Spiritual Court to the Court of Queen's Bench, where the judges were equally divided in their opinion."



HEREFORD

CHAPTER VI

HEREFORD—THE CATHEDRAL—OTHER OBJECTS OF INTEREST IN THE CITY

THE exterior of Hereford Cathedral is by no means as striking to the eye as are many other of the sister edifices through the land, yet no one can see it without being impressed by its central tower. It is not its height that produces the effect, nor any special beauty of proportion, but the remarkable manner in which it is studded with that characteristic ornament of the Decorated period, which is named the ball-flower. Attention has already been called to the use of this decoration in the chapel of St Catherine at Ledbury, but here its use is on a much larger scale. There is a similar profusion of this ornament in the windows of the south aisle of the nave at Gloucester Cathedral, and in those of the south aisle at Leominster, each of which has 820 balls. This fine tower was built by or in the episcopate of Giles de Braose or Bruce, one of King John's most persistent opponents. The remarkable details of its internal construction will be alluded to on a later page. The tower

was for a time surmounted by a lofty spire of timber covered with lead, an addition which was no part of the original design. This was taken down at the time that the nave was rebuilt, and the pinnacles which crown the corners of the tower were added in 1830. Beyond the tower the north porch, often called Bishop Booth's porch from the name of its builder, the north transept and the arcading on the exterior of the Lady Chapel are the most striking features of the exterior of the edifice. Booth's porch is Perpendicular in its architecture, and dates from 1530. Its upper portion contains a room, lit by three large windows.

The cathedral consists of a nave with aisles and transepts, a choir also with aisles, eastern transepts, and a Lady Chapel. The interior length of the building is 327 feet, of which the nave forms 158 and the Lady Chapel 93. The nave possesses on either side eight great Norman pillars, the capitals of which deserve attention. Above the capitals we come upon the work of Wyatt for the triforium, clerestory, vaulting of the roof, as well as the entire of the west end with its window and doorway are of his design. The view from the west end of the rows of columns separating the nave from its aisles with the finely ornamented arches which connect them and support the superjacent structure is very impressive, and would be more so but that the view of the choir is interrupted by an over-ornate modern screen which divides the choir from the nave and prevents the beautiful arrange-

ment of arch and pillar at the east end of the former from being seen properly from this point. The most interesting object in the nave is the font, which is placed in the second bay from the west on the south side. It has a circular basin which is 32 inches in diameter, and would therefore permit of the entire immersion of an infant. Round this basin are a series of arches, under which are much-mutilated figures of the Twelve Apostles. A half lion projects from and supports each corner of the base. The whole is of the Norman period, and a very curious and interesting piece of work. The first monument of note is that of Sir Richard Pembridge, which is situated like the font on the south side. This monument was originally in the church of the Black Friars, and was brought to the cathedral at the Dissolution of the Monasteries. It had then only one leg, the place of the missing member being afterwards supplied by a wooden model, on which the conscientious workman had carved a second Garter. Lord Saye and Sele, however, was generous enough to replace this by a new and more accurate leg of alabaster like the rest of the monument. Sir Richard was the fifty-third Knight of the Garter. He was present at the Battle of Poitiers, and died in 1375. The monument was originally coloured, but only traces of the pigments now remain. The head rests on a tilting helmet surmounted by a coronet of roses and a sheaf of feathers. According to Bloxam the jousting helme and shield of this knight were affixed above

the tomb up to a late period, but they have now disappeared. In the wall of the south aisle, opposite the fifth and sixth bays, are mutilated figures lying within floriated arches, and in the seventh bay is the entrance to the cloisters. In the north aisle is the monument of Bishop Booth, the builder of the porch, which bears his name. It is opposite the sixth bay, and is the only tomb still protected by one of the ancient ironwork screens which were originally provided for most of the older monuments. This screen is banded with shields and heraldic ornaments. The bishop himself is fully vested for the saying of Mass, and the original inscription, which still exists, runs: "Carolus Booth, episcopus Herefordensis cum 18 annos, 5 menses et totidem dies Ecclesia huic cum laude prefuisset, quinto die Maii 1535 defunctus sub hoc tumulo sepultus jacet."

Standing under the central tower and looking upwards, it will be seen that the method of construction which it exhibits is quite unlike anything to be seen elsewhere. Willis, who was called upon to make a report upon the tower, says of its internal walls, that, "they are of a very singular construction; twelve piers of compact masonry on each side, besides angle piers, are carried up to the height of 26 feet, and connected half way up by a horizontal course of stone, in long pieces, and by an iron bar which runs all round immediately under this bonding course. Upon these gigantic *stone gratings*, if I may be allowed the expression, the interior wall

of the tower rests, and they also carry the entire weight of the bell-chamber and bells: this construction was entirely adopted for the sake of lightness."

The south transept, though somewhat altered during the Perpendicular period, contains much fine Norman work, the east wall belonging, save for the groining, entirely to that epoch. The headless and handless effigy of Bishop Trevenant (1389-1404), who was responsible for the Perpendicular portions of this part of the church, lies under the south window. In this transept also is the altar tomb of Sir Alexander Denton, his wife, and a child in swaddling clothes, with the following inscription: "Here lieth Alexander Denton, of Hillesden, in the County of Buckingham, and Anne, his wife, Dowghter and Heyr of Richard Willyson, of Suggerwesh, in the Countie of Hereford; which Anne deceased the 29th of October, A.D. 1566 the 18th yere of her Age, the 23rd of his Age." As a matter of fact, Sir Alexander does not lie here, for Browne Willis remarks, "This was but a caenotaph, for Alexander Denton, the husband, who lived some years after, and marryed another lady, was bur'y with her at Hillesden, Co. Bucks; where he died January the 18th, 1576."

The north transept, one of the most interesting and beautiful portions of the whole edifice, was erected as the outer shell for the shrine of the sainted bishop, Thomas de Cantilupe. This transept has an east aisle, in which what remains

of the shrine still finds a place. The architecture of this transept belongs to the early English period, the rather curiously shaped arches between the main body of the transept and its aisle having a single string of the dog-tooth ornament. Above these arches is a very beautiful triforium, which is continued also over the Norman arch by which the transept communicates with the north aisle of the choir. In each bay of the triforium are two pointed arches, the intervening spandrels being diapered with a leaf ornament. Each of these arches again includes three smaller with trefoil heads, surmounted by three open quatrefoils. The clerestory in this portion of the transept consists of octofoil windows. There is a great north window filled with stained glass by Hardman, and placed there as a memorial of Archdeacon Lane-Freer. The first and most interesting object in this transept is the shrine for which it was erected, which stands in its east aisle, and can easily be identified by the fact that it is constructed, so to speak, in two stories. The lower part, which, like the rest of the monument, is made of Purbeck marble, has a series of arches with cinquefoil heads. In each of these is a Knight Templar, now sadly mutilated, with a monster of some sort under his feet. The Bishop was Provincial Grand Master of the Knights Templars in England, hence it was quite appropriate that they should watch in effigy over the dead body of their superior. The spandrels between these arches are filled with sculptured foliage of a very early Decorated

type. Above this basal portion of the monument is an open arcade carrying the slab, which forms at present the top of the shrine. Looking in through the pillars of this arcade it will be seen that the stone which forms the upper part of the base still preserves the matrix for a brass of the bishop, a brass no doubt torn out of its place when the cathedral was desecrated by the Puritan horde. The actual shrine containing the relics was deposited on the upper slab, and no doubt surrounded by rich votive offerings presented by those who came to seek the intercession of the saint. The next monument which should be noted is that of the builder of the transept, Bishop Aquablanca, which lies between the transept aisle and that on the north side of the choir. It is a most beautiful piece of work, probably the most beautiful thing in the cathedral, and deserves careful study. The effigy of the bishop lies under a canopy, consisting of three divisions, supported by slender shafts of Purbeck marble. It is adorned with much carving, and the gables are surmounted by floriated crosses, the central one bearing a crucifix. The effigy itself, which was formerly coloured, and still retains some of the paint applied in 1862, is a most excellent study of the pre-Reformation vestments of a Catholic Bishop vested for the saying of Mass. His mitre is on his head, and he bears his pastoral staff. The outermost vestment is the chasuble, the characteristic eucharistic clothing. The long maniple depends from the left arm,

and the under vestments can be seen in series below the edge of the chasuble. The curious in such matters can now walk across the transept and examine the effigy of Bishop Westfayling, which lies below the great north window. This prelate, who ruled the see from 1585-1601, was one of the first of the post-Reformation bishops, and is stated to have been "a man remarkable for the immoderate length of his speeches, his great integrity, and a profound and unsmiling gravity." Setting aside the question of the relative length of their discourses, he was probably a considerable contrast in both the other above-mentioned characteristics to Bishop Aquablanca, and his garb is equally distinctive. With the abandonment of the Mass, which took place at the Reformation, came also the abandonment of the Mass vestments, and we find Dr Westfayling arrayed very much as the Anglican bishops of our own day appear. This monument is thus described by Bloxam: "He appears with the moustache and beard, the latter long and flowing. He is habited in the cassock, on his head is worn the scull-cap, and round the neck is a ruff. He is vested in the rochet and chimere, over which is worn the tippet. The drapery of the rochet or cassock at the skirts is gathered up and held by the left hand. The right hand supports the head, and the body reclines on the right side. The folds of the cassock, rochet, and chimere are very numerous; but the arrangement is not good, and the execution of the effigy, which is of stone, is indifferent."

These two effigies of bishops will be found an interesting study in the episcopal vestments of the two periods. Close to the tomb of Bishop Aquablanca is that of his nephew, who was Dean of the Cathedral. Near to that of Bishop Westfayling is the richly canopied tomb of Bishop Thomas Charlton (1328-1343), Treasurer of England in 1329, and Chancellor of Ireland in 1337. Westfayling once had a canopy, but Wyatt removed it, though why he missed that of Charlton or how he was able to refrain from meddling with it does not appear.

Before leaving this transept a brass in the floor should be noticed which commemorates John Philips, the author of three once well-known poems: "The Splendid Shilling," "Cyder," an imitation of Virgil's Georgics, having a special interest for the inhabitants of his adopted city, and "Blenheim," which was a celebration of Marlborough's great victory from the Tory point of view. Philips was not a native of Hereford, having been born in 1676 at Bampton, in Oxfordshire, but he settled down in this city, and there died of consumption at the early age of 32.

The choir, which, as has already been mentioned, is separated from the nave by a huge metal screen, greatly admired by some, consists of three Norman bays on either side, the arches being of three orders. The triforium in each bay consists of a single large Norman arch circumscribing two smaller arches of the same

character. The clerestory and the vaulting are of the early English period, and it is mainly from the windows of the former that the choir gains its light. The heavy Norman pillars and arches, and the great projection of the transepts, which deprives the aisle windows of much of their light, make the choir rather dimly lit, but when one turns one's back upon the screen there is a great solemnity about this part of the cathedral. At the east end of the choir is a Norman arch of five orders, beneath which is placed the modern reredos. Rising from behind this last erection is a pillar from which spring two arches, one on either side. The spandrel between these two arches, which thus finds a position immediately above the reredos, is covered with rather good modern carving, representing our Lord in His Majesty, with the four evangelists, each holding a scroll. Beneath this representation is a figure of St Æthelberht. This termination of the choir is very effective and beautiful, especially when viewed from the far end of that part of the church. Just in front of the steps leading up to the communion-table is a white marble slab, bearing a representation of the murder of St Æthelberht, designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, and marking the spot in front of the former high altar, where it is believed that the dead body of the king was laid. The choir-stalls are ancient, though restored, and belong to the Decorated period. The bishop's throne is of the fourteenth century. There is a remarkably interesting piece of ecclesiastical furniture

preserved in the choir in the shape of a very ancient chair, perhaps the oldest thing of the kind in this country. It is said to have been made for Bishop Raynelm (1107-1115), and tradition reports that it was in this seat that King Stephen sat when he kept Whitsuntide with so much pomp at Hereford. The organ occupies the first arch in the choir on its south side. It was originally made by Renatus Harris, and presented to the cathedral by King Charles II. It has of course been very greatly altered since that time. The south choir aisle contains in its south wall four recesses belonging to the Decorated period, in each of which there is the effigy of a bishop, but it is not exactly known which occupants of the see these are intended to represent. The tomb of Bishop de Losing, one of the early builders of the cathedral (ob. 1095), is on the north side of this aisle, and so is the effigy and brass of Bishop Mayhew (1504-1516). The two Norman chapels, now used as vestries, communicate with this aisle. But the most interesting thing to be seen in this part of the cathedral, indeed in its way the most interesting thing in the whole edifice, is a most remarkable map of the world, one of the oldest maps in existence. It is enclosed in an oak case and must by no means be missed by the visitor to Hereford. It was discovered during the eighteenth century under the floor of Bishop Audley's Chantry, which has yet to be described. It was probably designed somewhere about 1314, by a person named Richard of

Haldingham, for it bears the following inscription in Norman French:—

"Tuz ki cest estorie ont
Ou oyront, oy luront, ou veront,
Prient á Jhesus en deyté
De Richard de Haldingham e de Lafford eyt pité
Ki l'at fet e compassé
Ke joie en cel li seit doné."

Which has been thus rendered into English by Mr Townshend:—

"May all who this fair history
Shall either hear, or read, or see,
Pray to Jesus Christ in Deity
Richard of Haldingham and Lafford to pity,
That to him for aye be given
The joy and happiness of heaven."

The late Mr Havergal wrote of this remarkable map: "It is believed to be one of the very oldest maps in the world, if not the oldest, and it is full of the deepest interest. It is founded on the cosmographical treatises of the time, which generally commence by stating that Augustus Cæsar sent out three philosophers, Nichodixus, Theodotus and Polictitus, to measure and survey the world, and that all geographical knowledge was the result. In the left-hand corner of the map the Emperor is delivering to the philosophers written orders, confirmed by a handsome mediæval seal. The world is here represented as round, surrounded by the ocean. At the top of the map is represented paradise, with its rivers and trees; also the eating of the forbidden fruit and the expulsion of our first parents. Above is a

remarkable representation of the Day of Judgment, with the Virgin Mary interceding for the faithful, who are seen rising from their graves and being led within the walls of heaven. The map is chiefly filled with ideas taken from Herodotus, Solinus, Isidore, Pliny, and other ancient historians. There are numerous figures of towns, animals, birds and fish, with grotesque customs, such as the mediæval geographers believed to exist in different parts of the world; Babylon with its famous tower; Rome, the capital of the world, bearing the inscription: 'Roma, caput mundi, tenet orbis frena rotundi'; and Troy as 'civitas bellicosissima.' In Great Britain most of the cathedrals are mentioned; but of Ireland the author seems to have known very little. Amongst the many points of interest are the columns of Hercules, the Labyrinth of Crete, the pyramids in Egypt, the house of bondage, the journeys of the children of Israel, the Red Sea, Mount Sinai, with a figure of Moses and his supposed place of burial, the Phœnix, Jews worshipping the molten image, Lot's wife, Noah's Ark, Warriors in combat with a Griffin," etc.

The south-east transept replaces an apse which existed at this point in the Norman church, and some fragments of architecture of that era still remain, though the greater part of the transept belongs to a somewhat late part of the Decorated period. There is a door leading from this portion of the church into the Vicar's Cloister and passage, with a very

finely carved oak roof, and containing some monuments, which connects the church with the College of Vicars-Choral. There was a company of soldiers consisting of "a captain, a lieutenant, and an ancient, all three of the military company in Norwich," who in 1632 made an extensive survey of some of the counties of England, visiting most places of interest, and describing what they there saw. They supply, for example, a number of interesting notes about Coventry, and the objects in St Mary's Hall in that city. This company made a visit to Hereford in the course of their perambulation, and gave an amusing account of this College of Vicars-Choral as it existed at that date. "Next came wee into a brave and ancient priviledg'd place, through the Lady Arbour Cloyster, close by the Chapter-house, called the Vicars Chorall or Colledge Cloyster, where twelve of the singing men, all in orders, most of them Masters in Arts, of a Gentile garbe, have their convenient several dwellings, and a fayre Hall, with richly painted windows, colledge like, wherein they constantly dyet together, and have their cooke, butler, and other officers, with a fayre library to themselves, consisting all of English books, wherein (after we had freely tasted of their choral cordiall liquor) we spent our time till the Bell toll'd us away to Cathedral prayers. There we heard a most sweet Organ, and voyces of all parts, Tenor, Counter-Tenor, Treble, and Base; and amongst that orderly shewy crew of Queristers

our landlord guide did act his part in a deep and sweet Diapason." In this transept were laid in 1867 the remains of Bishop Gilbert Ironside (1691-1701), they having been removed at that date from the church of St Mary, Somerset, in London. The bishop, having died at his London residence, was buried in the vaults of his parish church, which happened to be that named above. When this building was taken down under an Act for dealing with the superfluous city churches, the remains of the bishop were brought back to the cathedral over which he had once ruled. The chief fact of interest in connection with his career is that he happened to be Warden of Merton College, Oxford, and Vice-Chancellor of the University at the time of the struggle between James II. and the Fellows of Magdalen College, the main facts of which were narrated in an earlier chapter. Ironside took the side of the expelled Fellows, and refused to dine with the Royal Commissioners on the day upon which the expulsion took place, saying, "I am not of Colonel Kerke's mind. I cannot eat my meals with appetite under a gallows."

The Lady Chapel is built upon a crypt, which was at one time used as the charnel-house of the cathedral, on which account it has received the name of Golgotha. It is early English in its architecture, and the only example in any of the English cathedrals of a crypt of later date than the eleventh century. In the crypt is a single large altar tomb, with

an incised slab, on which are represented the figures of a merchant and his wife, the repairers of the part of the church in which they are buried. It is an excellent example of this particular kind of monument, and bears round its verge the following inscription: "Hic jacet Andreas Jones, quondam mercator hujus civitatis (et Elizabetha uxor ejus) qui hanc domum carnanam diu desolatam novo re-edicavit et reparavit erga festum omnium sanctorum A.D. MCCCCXCVII. etiam ad tunc bene et laudabiliter ordinavit capellam . . . futuris temporibus in eadem celebrand: pro animabus benefactorum et omnium defunctorum fidelium: quorum animabus ppicietur Deus. Amen." A scroll projecting from the mouth of the wife bears the inscription:—

"Remember thy life may not ever indure,
That thou dost thyself thereof thou art sewre."

The merchant completes the remark:—

"But and thou leve thi will to other menis cure,
And thou have it after, it is but a venture."

The Lady Chapel itself is, like its undercroft, a building of the early English period, but has been very greatly and frequently restored. The east window is of singular beauty, and is filled with stained glass, designed by Cottingham, the architect of the restoration. This glass is intended to commemorate Dean Merewether, who played so large a part in the most recent restoration of the cathedral. The window consists of five lancet apertures within deep recesses, the

arches of which are provided with clusters of pillars. Above the windows are five quatrefoil openings, the central three being oval and the outer two circular. Dean Merewether thus details some of the most interesting features which were revealed when this part of the cathedral was restored: "The discovery of two aumbries, both walled up, but one with the stones composing it reversed; the double piscina on the south side, the chapel of Bishop Audley; but especially two of the most beautiful specimens of transition arches which can be found in any edifice, bearing the early English form, the shafts and capitals, and the lancet-shaped arch above, but ornamented in their soffits with the Norman moulding, and the zig-zag decoration, corresponding with the remarkable union of the Norman intersecting arches on the exterior of the building, with its pointed characteristics. The appearance of the central column with a base in the early English and its capital with the Norman ornament might be added."

The Audley Chantry above alluded to is situated in the central bay on the south side, and was built by the bishop whose name it bears. He held the see from 1492 to 1502. Being afterwards translated to Salisbury, he built another chantry there in which he was eventually buried. The Hereford chantry consists of two stories, whereof the lower is intended for a chapel, and the other perhaps for an oratory. The chapel is cut off from the build-

ing to which it is attached by a coloured stone screen. It has a vaulted ceiling, which was evidently originally painted. The boss in the centre of the roof of the upper portion represents the Blessed Virgin crowned. There are several monuments of considerable interest in the Lady Chapel, amongst which may first be mentioned a recumbent figure of a knight, which lies within a fine Perpendicular recess in the central bay on the north side. "The costume is of the earlier part of the fourteenth century; full armour, and covered (a rare example) by a cyclass, a close linen shirt worn over the armour in Edward III.'s reign. This shirt is cut short in front, and about six inches longer behind. The visitor should also notice the fringed poleyns at the knees" (Fisher). In the upper part of the recess is a representation of the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin, still in its original situation. On either side of this are figures, found during the last restoration and placed here, of SS. John the Baptist and Æthelberht on the one side, and of SS. Thomas of Canterbury (with archiepiscopal crozier) and Thomas of Hereford. This tomb was long supposed to be that of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford. It probably belongs to some member of that family, who was husband to the lady whose monument will next be mentioned. This lady was Joanna de Bohun, Countess of Hereford, "Domina de Kilpec," a member of the family of Plukenet of Kilpeck, which is situated only a few miles from Hereford, and is well-known

at this day for the extraordinary richness of decoration shown by its Norman Church. Respecting this effigy and the lady represented, Dean Merewether says, "In 1327 Joanna de Bohun gave to the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, the church of Lugwardyne, with the chapels of Llangarren, St Waynards and Henthland, with all the small chapels belonging to them, which donation was confirmed by the king by the procurement and diligence of Thomas de Chandos, Archdeacon of Hereford; and the Bishop of Hereford further confirmed it to the Dean and Chapter by deed, dated Lugwas, 22nd July, 1331: And afterwards the Bishop, Dean and Chapter appropriated the revenues of it to the service peculiar to the Virgin Mary, 'because in other churches in England the Mother of God has better and more serious service, but in the Church of Hereford the Ladye's sustenance for her prieste was so small, that out of their respect they add this, by their deeds, dated in the Chapter at Hereford, April 10th, 1333.' Johanna de Bohun died without issue, Edward I., 1327, the donation of Lugwardyne being perhaps her dying bequest. On the 17th of October in that year, she constituted John de Badesshawe, her attorney, to give possession to the Dean and Chapter of an acre of land in Lugwardine, and the advowson of the church with the chapels pertaining to it. This instrument was dated at Bisseleye, and her seal was appended. . . . The circumstances above-mentioned appear sufficiently to explain why the memorial

of Johanna de Bohun is found in the Lady Chapel, to which especially she had been a benefactress. They also explain the original ornaments of this tomb, the painting which was to be seen not many years since under the arch in which the effigy lies, now unfortunately concealed by a coat of plaster of which sufficient has been removed to prove that Gough's description of the original state of the painting is correct. He says 'The Virgin is represented sitting, crowned with a nimbus; a lady habited in a mantle and wimple kneeling on an embroidered cushion offers to her a church built in the form of a cross, with a central spire—and behind the lady kneel eleven or twelve religious, chanting *à gorge deployée* after the foremost, who holds up a book, on which are musical notes and 'salve sca parens.' Fleur-de-lys are painted both within and without this arch, and on the spandrels two shields; on the left, a bend cotised between twelve lioncels (Bohun); and on the right, Ermines, a bend indented, gules. This description was published 1786. By this painting there can be no doubt that the donation of the church of Lugwardine was represented; the eleven or twelve vociferous choristers were the eight chaplains and two deacons mentioned in the patent, who were set apart for the peculiar service of the Lady Chapel, and provided for from the pious bequest of Johanna de Bohun. The two shields mentioned by Gough are still discernible, that on the dexter side bearing the arms of Bohun, Azure a bend

Argent, between two cotises, and six lions rampant or. The other Ermines, a bend indented (or fusilée), gules, which were the bearings of Plugenet, derived perhaps originally from the earlier Barons of Kilpeck, and still borne by the family of Pye in Herefordshire, whose descent is traced to the same source. In the list of obits observed in Hereford Cathedral, Johanna is called the Lady Kilpeck, and out of Lugwardine was paid yearly for her obit forty pence." The effigy of Dean Berew (ob. 1462), on the arch of which his rebus, a boar with a leaf of rue in his mouth, is several times represented, is worthy of note.

In the north-east transept is the canopied tomb of Bishop Swinfield, retaining some of its carving though mutilated by the Puritan desecrators of the church. The figure which it contains is not that of the bishop, but an effigy which was found in the cloisters.

The north choir aisle has attached to it a small chapel of late Perpendicular architecture, the Chantry Chapel of Bishop Stanbury (1453-1474). His tomb is on the north of the choir and in its eastermost bay. This bishop, who was a Carmelite friar, was also provost of Eton. In the middle bay on this side of the choir is the monument of Bishop Bennett, in characteristic post-Reformation vestments. This prelate who was noted for his skill as a tennis-player held the see from 1602 to 1617.

The inscription composed for his tomb is rather curious:—

"Multa *Ben'et* melius fecisti plura *Benette*,
Unde *Ben'et* melius fecit utrumque Deus;
Qui *Ben'et* in terris melius dedit, ille *Benetto*,
Dat *Ben'et* in coelis si quid habet melius."

In the north wall of the north choir aisle are several arched recesses belonging to the Decorated period, in one of which is the effigy of an early bishop bearing a tower in his hand. This is probably Bishop Giles de Braose or Bruce, in whose episcopate, as has already been mentioned, the central tower was erected. The figure is not contemporary, but was executed during the Perpendicular period, when some outburst of piety or gratitude led to the placing of a number of effigies of earlier bishops in the cathedral.

The bishop's cloister is approached from the east end of the south aisle of the nave. It never had a north walk alongside the cathedral wall, so far as can be ascertained, and the west walk was pulled down in the reign of Edward VI., to permit of the erection of a Grammar School, which in its turn has disappeared. The cloister is of the Perpendicular period, and has at its south-east corner a small square tower containing a chamber. This little building is called the Ladye Arbour, no doubt because it was once a shrine of the Blessed Virgin, or was in some way appropriated to her worship. The entrance door to the chapter-house still remains in the east walk of the cloister, but the chapter-house itself, which was an edifice of the Decorated period, has gone. It was probably a good deal

mutilated by the Puritans, but its destruction is mainly attributable to the over-active Bishop Bisse, who used it as a stone-quarry as long as its materials held out.

There were two Norman chapels, one superimposed upon the other, which stood against the south walk of the cloisters, and of which some remains still exist. The upper was dedicated to St Mary Magdalene, and the lower to St Catherine. The Bishop's Palace stands on the south side of the cathedral, and between that building and the river.

The Library of the cathedral contains a number of interesting and valuable books, amongst which is a copy of Caxton's "Golden Legend, 1484." The most valuable MS. is a Latin version of the Four Gospels, written in Anglo-Saxon characters, and at least one thousand years old. Amongst the treasures of the cathedral mention must not be neglected of the remarkable chasse or reliquary, long connected with St Æthelberht. Why it should ever have been so connected is difficult to understand, since the scenes depicted on it are those of the life of an ecclesiastic. As a matter of fact, the principal scene represented is that of the murder of St Thomas of Canterbury, for relics of whom this chasse was no doubt intended. It is made of oak, and is covered with copper plates overlaid with Limoges enamel. In the interior is a cross pattée fitchée painted in red upon a piece of oak, which is itself stained with blood or with some other similar

dark fluid. There seems to have been some considerable cultus of St Thomas of Canterbury at Hereford for, in addition to this chasse, there was up to late in the seventeenth century a wall-painting of the saint, and his effigy appears elsewhere throughout the building, on the Bohun tomb, for example, as has already been mentioned, though that was not the original site of this figure. What makes this so remarkable is that Henry VIII. issued in 1538 a most strict decree, that all representations of the martyred archbishop were to be destroyed. It is quite easy to understand that Henry did not wish to preserve in any way the memory of a prelate whose views as to the dependence of the Church of England on the Papal See were so diametrically opposed to his own. Hence the preservation of these different memorials at Hereford is somewhat remarkable.

Amongst the other edifices of Hereford, All Saints' Church has a tower and spire, and contains a range of rather handsome oak stalls with canopies. The register of this church contains the entry of the baptism of one of the most celebrated actors who ever trod the stage. "David, son of Peter and Arabella Garrick, was baptized 28th February, 1716.—H. Lewis, Minister." "Mr Garrick's father," says Duncomb, after giving the entry just quoted, "was a French refugee, and had a lieutenant's commission in a regiment of horse then stationed in Hereford. His quarters were at an inn called *The Angel*, and David Garrick was born there.

His father was afterwards promoted to a troop in the same regiment."

St Peter's Church has also a tower and spire. It is the most ancient parish church in the city, having been founded by Walter de Lacy in 1070, but has been much modernised.

In the suburb of Hereford, called Widemarsh, are some remains of the house of Black Friars or Dominicans, which was completed in the reign of Edward III. At the dedication of its church the king himself was present, accompanied by the Black Prince, three archbishops, a bishop, and his own confessor. The most interesting relic of this religious house is the Preaching Cross, which is a hexagon, with a cinquefoil-headed aperture on each face. It is placed at the summit of a flight of steps, and is surmounted by a cross.

Close to this was a small Commandery belonging to the knights hospitallers of St John of Jerusalem, which is the institution alluded to by Leland: "There was an Hospitall of St *John*, sometimes an House of Templares, now it is an Almeshouse with a Chappell." In the reign of Queen Elizabeth this house came, by purchase, into the possession of the Coningsby family, and in the year 1614 Sir Thomas Coningsby determined to turn it into a retreat for "two of the most valuable characters in society (although generally the most neglected) — the worn-out soldier, and the superannuated faithful servant." The materials for building this new foundation were to be had in the ruins of the Dominican house, and Sir

Thomas' hostel was erected out of them, and on the site of the ancient Commandery. It was entitled by its founder "Coningsby's Company of old Servitors. in the suburbs of the City of Hereford." "Under this arrangement," writes Duncomb, "the corporation of these *new Knights Hospitallers* consists of a corporal, chaplain, and ten servitors. The chaplain must be a graduate of the University of Oxford, 'a preacher well read, and well spoken, and above all, of honest and discreet conversation.' Six of the servitors are required to be soldiers of three years' service at least, and natives of one of the counties of Hereford, Worcester or Salop; and if six of this description should not be found, the deficiency is to be supplied by mariners, born as above, and of three years' tried employment at sea; the other five to be old serving-men of seven years' service at least, and in want of better maintenance. One of the servitors (being a soldier) is called the *Corporal* of Coningsby's Company, and acts as chief or governor on the spot; but the owner in fee of Hampton-Court is considered or styled the *Commander* of the hospital, and the servitors are to address him only by that title, 'in memory of those worthy governors who once presided over the military society in this place.' Minute directions are given as to the conduct of this society, and especially as to the dress of the occupants of the hostel. On his admittance, each is to have 'a fustian suit of ginger colour, of a soldier-like fashion, and seemly laced; a

HIGHTOWN, HEREFORD

soldier-like jerkin, with half sleeves, and a square shirt, down half the thigh, with a *moncado* or *Spanish* cap; a sword to wear abroad; a cloak of red cloth, lined with red baize, and reaching to the knee, to be worn in walks or journeys; and a gown of red cloth reaching to the ankle, lined also with baize, to be worn within the hospital; and on the feast of Pentecost every alternate year afterwards, a similar hat and jerkin were directed to be given to each member; the whole to be for ever of the same fashion as those delivered at the first admittance.'" These rules as to dress are not now adhered to, but the servitors appear occasionally in red coats. The little hostel is a charming spot, as pleasant as the idea which inspired the worthy old knight to found it.

A much restored timber house, now used as Lloyd's bank, at the end of the High Town, is all that remains of Butcher's Row, and was in fact the Guildhall of the Company of Butchers.

About a mile out from Hereford on the road to Brecon is a flight of steps, surmounted by a pillar and cross, the last two portions being a modern restoration. It is called "The White Cross," and was placed on this spot by Bishop Lewis Charlton as a mark of gratitude for the disappearance of the plague in 1347. It indicates the spot where, during the continuance of the epidemic, the markets were held.

CHAPTER VII

TEWKESBURY

HISTORY OF THE TOWN AND ABBEY—THE ABBEY—OTHER BUILDINGS

THE history of most towns which have grown up round about a great monastery is for the most part the history of that monastery itself. Such, for example, is the case at Evesham. But Tewkesbury is somewhat of an exception to this rule. From the time of the Norman conquest at any rate, when Tewkesbury Abbey was rebuilt, the town and the patronage of the abbey were in the hands of a succession of the greatest nobles of the land, and the religious house and its rulers were much less independent than was the case in most of the sister houses throughout the country. Perhaps one of the best proofs of this influence is the fact that we find some of the windows of the choir still occupied by figures of the Norman barons who ruled over Tewkesbury, a departure from the general rule of reserving this part of the church for the representations of scriptural or canonised persons. Before dealing, however, with the Norman period, it will be necessary to say

TEWKESBURY·ABBEY·CHURCH·

something about the earlier history of the house, so far, indeed, as that history can be cleared from the mists of antiquity. There is considerable doubt as to the origin of the name of Tewkesbury, some having even claimed that it was really Duces-bury from the two dukes Oddo and Doddo, whose names have been associated with the foundation of the abbey, with what reason will shortly appear. Certain it is that the name appears in the Latin records as Theokusburia; in Domesday Book it is called Teodeschesberie, and during the Anglo-Saxon times it figured either as Theocsburg or as Theotisbyrg. Perhaps, therefore, there may be some truth in the legend which relates that a Briton of the name of Theoc set up at this place a kind of hermitage, around which gradually grew a little settlement, which in the process of time developed into Theocsbury.

The Chronicles of the abbey assign its foundation to two Saxon dukes called Oddo and Doddo, and fix the date at or near 715, "in the times of the most illustrious princes and kings of Mercia, Ethelred and Ethelbard." This is, however, probably a confusion of names. In the times of Eadweard, the Confessor, there were two brothers, Odda and Aelfric, and it was the former of these who caused the royal hall at Deerhurst to be erected for the soul of the latter. It seems that there was a third brother named Dodda, and it is probably these personages to whom the chronicler is alluding, though he places

them about three hundred years before their time. But as he was writing two hundred and fifty years after their actual date, it is perhaps not wonderful that he should have made this mistake. We must provisionally at least dismiss the tale of Oddo and Doddo as founders of the abbey. In any case, whoever its founder may have been, there was an abbey here in 799 or 800, for at or about that date Berthric or Brictric, King of Wessex, was buried there. This Berthric was the husband of Aethburg, daughter of Offa, King of Mercia, who is said to have been responsible for her husband's death. "As soon," says Asser, "as she had obtained the king's affections, and with them nearly the supreme control of the realm, she began to play the tyrant like her father, execrating every man whom Berthric liked, and doing all things hateful to God and man. She accused before the king all whom she possibly could, and thus craftily deprived them either of power or life; and if she could not obtain her object from the king, she destroyed them by poison. It was notorious that she acted thus towards a young man who was a great favourite with the king; for when she could not succeed in her accusations she removed him by poison. It is also related that King Berthric himself unknowingly partook of the poison, though the queen had not intended to place it in his way; but he and his favourite both drinking of it, they both perished." The chronicle of the abbey gives the sequel of the tale by stating that King

Berthric was buried in the Chapel of St Faith, at Tewkesbury Abbey, by Hugh, a great earl of the Mercians. Also it relates that Hugh himself was buried in the same church in 812. Now this tomb was seen by Leland, who remarks: "Obiit dux Hugo a°. D. 812. et sepultus est in eodem Prioratu. Adhuc appareat tumulus ad boream in navi ecclesiae." This tomb is not now known to exist either on the north side of the nave or elsewhere; but there can be little doubt as to Leland having seen it. Aethburg is said after her husband's death to have visited the court of Charlemagne, and to have finally ended her days as a beggar in the streets of Pavia. During the time that this country was troubled by constant inroads of the Danes, Tewkesbury did not escape the national plague, in fact, it was situated within the limits of that area of country in which the last desperate struggle between the opposing forces took place. Prior to the Norman Conquest Tewkesbury had lost its independence and become a cell to the Benedictine Monastery of St Bartholomew at Cranborne, in Dorsetshire. This monastery was founded by Haylward de Meaux or Haywardus Meawe, to whom, as Earl of Mercia, Tewkesbury belonged, and by whom it was handed over as a cell to his new foundation. Through his son Algar, the patronage of Tewkesbury descended to Berthric or Brictricus Meawe, his grandson, and in his hands it was, when, in an evil hour for Berthric, William of Normandy made the Conquest of England. For Berthric

in his earlier days had visited the court of the Earl of Flanders, and there the earl's daughter, Matilda, had been so much captivated by the Saxon earl as to offer herself as his bride. Berthric, for some reason, declined the offer, and Matilda subsequently married the Duke of Normandy. When Matilda came to share the throne of England, so far from congratulating herself upon her escape and cherishing a kindly feeling towards Berthric, she caused him to be seized and imprisoned at Winchester, and annexed all his possessions. The unfortunate Berthric shortly afterwards died in prison. William of Malmesbury remarks of Matilda that she was "a woman who was a singular mirror of prudence in our time, and the perfection of virtue," but he says nothing about the perfection of her memory.

After Matilda's death William I. retained the honour of Gloucester, which included Tewkesbury in his own hands, but immediately after his death, his son, William Rufus, granted it to Robert Fitz-Hamon. This nobleman, who must always rank as the real founder of Tewkesbury Abbey, was a relative, both by birth and by marriage, of the Conqueror, his wife, Sibylla, being a niece of that monarch. Fitz-Hamon was the leader of a body of twelve knights, amongst whom was Sir Pagan de Turberville, the founder of the celebrated South Welsh and Dorsetshire families of that name, into Wales to assist Jestin, Prince of Glamorgan, in his conflict with Rhŷs ap Tudor,

Prince of Cardigan and Caermarthen. Rhŷs was slain, and Fitz-Hamon and his followers annexed large tracts of land. From this date Fitz-Hamon described himself as "by the grace of God, Prince of Glamorgan, Earl of Corbill, Baron of Thorigny and Granville, Lord of Gloucester, Bristol, Tewkesbury and Cardiff; Conqueror of Wales, near kinsman of the king, and general of the king's army in France." Having established himself thus, he seems to have at once determined to rebuild the abbey at Tewkesbury in a most magnificent manner. Whether the previously existing buildings were ruinous or whether they were swept away to make room for the new edifice, no traces remain of any earlier church than that of Fitz-Hamon, to whom indeed this country is indebted for most of the magnificent fabric as it now stands. Its construction was commenced in 1102, but its founder was not destined to see the completion of his work, for he died of an injury received at the siege of Falaise in 1107. He was temporarily interred in the chapter-house, from which place his body was removed one hundred and thirty-four years later to a position near the altar. Fitz-Hamon left no son to succeed to his possessions, a misfortune which, as will be seen, befell a good many of the owners of Tewkesbury, the constant change of line being thus accounted for. Of his four daughters, two became abbesses of two of the most important houses of women in England, Cicely of Shaftes-

bury and Avice of Wilton. A third, his eldest daughter, Mabel, married one of Henry I.'s illegitimate sons. This particular bye-product of royalty was the son of Nesta, daughter of Rhŷs ap Tudor, whom Fitz-Hamon had slain. It is said that Mabel refused to marry him until his father had given him a title. This, however, was no obstacle to stand between a king and a rich dowry when it was a question of providing for a son, and Robert was created Earl of Gloucester. He also was a great church-builder, having been the founder of the Priory of St James at Bristol and of Margan Priory in Glamorganshire. Leland says: "He buildid the Castelle of *Bristow* or the most part of it. Every Man sayith that he buildid the great square Stone Dungeon, and that the Stones thereof cam oute of Cane in *Normandie*, and like wise the Stones of the Toure of *Theukesbyri* Chirche." Either this Earl or his predecessor was also the builder of what Florence of Worcester calls the "magnificent house" at Tewkesbury, in which Mabel and her husband resided. In 1123 the Abbey was in a state to be consecrated, and that ceremony was performed by Theulf, Bishop of Worcester, assisted by Urban, Bishop of Llandaff, Richard, Bishop of Hereford, and Gregory, Bishop of Dublin, and by a fourth prelate, whose name and see have not come down to us. Robert died in 1147, and was buried in the priory which he had founded at Bristol, and his son William reigned in his stead. Save that he was the founder of Keyns-

ham Abbey, which he built in memory of his only son, there is little to be said about William. He died and was buried beside his much lamented son in his Abbey of Keynsham. During his lifetime some part of the Abbey was destroyed by fire in 1178. It seems certain that this conflagration must have been confined to the domestic buildings, for there is no evidence to show that the church sustained any serious damage from it. Again only daughters were left to succeed to the property, and again the king, this time Richard I., provided for a member of his family by handing over the possessions with Isabella, the youngest, and at that time only unmarried daughter, to his brother John. When John came to the throne he discovered that his wife was within the limits of consanguinity, being his second cousin. This was a diriment impediment, and as no prematrimonial dispensation appears to have been obtained, the marriage could be and was dissolved. The king and his former partner seem to have parted on good terms, for he not only permitted her to retain her possessions, a somewhat unusual exercise of kingly generosity, but provided her with a husband in the person of Geoffrey Mandeville, Earl of Essex, who became fourth Earl of Gloucester. Isabella on his death married a third time, but had no issue by any of her husbands. The possessions now passed to Almeric Devereux, son of Isabella's sister Mabel, who was wife to Almeric de Montfort, D'Evreux. He also

died without children. The third daughter of William the second Earl, Amice, had married Richard de Clare, Earl of Hertford, and failing other and nearer claimants, the property now came into this family, the earldoms of Gloucester and Hertford being held by the same person. Gilbert de Clare, who with his father had signed Magna Charta, was the first of this family to be connected with Tewkesbury. He was the first of the lords of Tewkesbury to be buried in the Abbey since Fitz-Hamon, its founder, the first too of a long line, for every one of his successors, for a period of two hundred and fifty years, was interred within the same walls. Shortly after his death his widow married Richard, Earl of Cornwall, brother to Henry III. She was anxious that her body should be laid beside that of her first husband, but the second objecting, matters were compromised. Her heart was laid with Gilbert de Clare in Tewkesbury, and the rest of her body was interred at Beaulieu Abbey. Gilbert's son, Richard, was only eight years of age at the time of his father's death, and consequently became a ward of the king. When he grew of an age to be married there were the usual struggles as to who should secure so eligible a *parti*. Richard endeavoured to settle the matter for himself by privately marrying Margaret de Burgh. Whether they were actually married or not is somewhat doubtful, but at anyrate they were separated from one another, and the marriage, if marriage there had been, set aside, presumably on the grounds

of secrecy. The king then married his young ward to Maud de Lacy, daughter of the Earl of Lincoln, who had gained this partner for his daughter by paying the king a sum of money which would be equivalent to £70,000 at this present day. "*Gilberte*, the secunde," says Leland, "communely caullyd *the redde Yerle* by cause his Body was of a very ruddy and blody Color. He delte hardly with the Monks of *Tewekesbyri*, and tooke away the giftes of *Gilberte* the firste his Grand-father." In another place he says, "the redde Erle much trobelid *S. Thomas of Hereford*." In fact he was the nobleman with whom the bishop had so many conflicts, and it is after him that the long trench which scores the summit of the Malvern Hills is called the Red Earl's Dike. Gilbert, the second, during the wars of the Barons, at first sided with his fellow-peers, but after the battle of Lewes, went over to the king and fought under his banners at Evesham.

His son, the third Gilbert, died at Bannockburn, and as he left no issue, the lordship passed from the male line of the de Clares, with whom it had been for ninety years. Gilbert's eldest sister, Eleanor, had married one of the Despencers, Hugo Secundus, who was executed at Hereford, as mentioned in a previous chapter. His son, the third Hugh, became lord of Tewkesbury, and after his death was succeeded by his nephew, Edward le Despencer, who took part in the battle of Poitiers, and was one of the first knights of the Garter. Thomas le Despencer, son to

the last, and Richard, his grandson, complete the list of this line, who held the honour for just about the same length of time as the line which they had succeeded. Isabella, sister to the last le Despencer, had married Richard Beauchamp —Ricardus de Bello Campo—who was killed at the siege of Breaux in 1421, and in whose memory the beautiful Warwick chantry was erected. Having obtained a dispensation to over-get the barrier of affinity, she married her cousin, another Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. It was in his honour that the exquisite Beauchamp Chapel was erected at Warwick, and his is that superb tomb which stands in the midst of the edifice. Thus the lover of architecture is indebted to this Isabella for two of the most beautiful pieces of work, those at Warwick and at Tewkesbury, which can be found throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Isabella had two children, Henry and Anne. The son was a great protegé of Henry VI., who bestowed upon him all sorts of titles, creating him Duke of Warwick, King of the Isle of Wight, and also King of Jersey and Guernsey. He died at the age of twenty-one, leaving a daughter who only survived him for three years. Anne, the daughter of Isabella, was married to the king-maker, the great Earl of Warwick and Salisbury, who, on the death of her niece, came into possession of Tewkesbury. After the death of the king-maker at the battle of Barnet, all his belongings were confiscated, but were

eventually distributed between his daughters Isabelle and Anne. Isabelle was the wife of the unhappy Duke of Clarence, who was murdered a few days after his wife's death—possibly from poison—at Warwick. Anne first married Prince Edward, the son of Henry VI., killed after the battle of Tewkesbury, and subsequently Richard III. In 1547 Tewkesbury fell into the hands of Lord Seymour of Sudely, husband to Catharine Parr. On his attainder the manor once more passed to the crown, and was sold by the thrifty James I. to the Corporation of Tewkesbury.

Mention of the battle of Tewkesbury has been omitted in this account, in order to avoid introducing alien matter into an already sufficiently confusing genealogical discussion, but some attention must now be devoted to this famous conflict.

On that day in 1471, on which the battle of Barnet was fought, Queen Margaret landed at Portsmouth, with the intention of joining the Lancastrian forces. Hearing, however, of the defeat of Warwick, she turned toward the west, where in Devonshire, an army favourable to her cause had been gathered by the Duke of Somerset. This force which she and the young Prince of Wales joined, made its way to Old Sodbury, not far from Bristol, and thence marched by way of Berkeley to Gloucester, which the duke had hoped to enter, and in which he had intended to fortify himself. On his arrival, however, he found that the city was already held by his enemies, and he was forced hastily to leave the neighbourhood and make for Tewkesbury. It was a forced march,

and an eye-witness, quoted by Mr Blunt, says of the troops on their arrival that "they hadd so traveylled theyr hoaste that nyght and day that they were ryght wery for travaylynge: for by that tyme they had travaylyd xxxvi longe myles, in a fowle contrye, all in lanes and stonny wayes, betwyxt woodes, without any good refreshynge." They took up a position, south of the church, in a field known as the Vineyard, "close, even at the townes ende; the towne and the abbey at theyre backs; afore them, and upon every hand of them, fowle lanes, and depe dikes, and many hedges, with hylls and valleys, a right evill place to approche, as cowlde well have been devysed." In the meantime Edward had marched from Windsor, through Oxford, Cirencester and Malmesbury, to Old Sodbury. Finding that his foes had not awaited his coming, he proceeded through Wooton-under-Edge and Stroud to Cheltenham. Having rested there for a short time, he pounced upon the Lancastrians at Tewkesbury. The first line of his opponents was soon broken, the second failed to support their beaten companions, and soon the rout became complete. "And so fell in the chase of them that many of them were slayne, and namely at a mylene in the medowe fast by the towne were many drownyd, many ranne towards the towne, many to the churche, to the abbey, and els where, as they best myghte."

Some of the fugitives made for the shelter of the church and their conquerors followed upon their heels. But the slaughter was stayed

by the Abbot Strensham, who was at that moment saying Mass and who stood between the foes, holding the consecrated Host in his hands. Hostilities were suspended, and the king promised to spare the lives of those who had made their way into the church. After thanksgiving had been made for the victory the king and his followers retired to the town and there, in a house in Church Street, the young Prince of Wales was done to death, after he had been struck across the mouth by the king's own gauntletted hand. Next day fourteen of the principal prisoners were executed after a brief trial, and thus ended the wars of the Roses. Blood had, however, been shed in quantities in the churchyard, and some apparently in the church itself. Now it is a law of the Catholic Church that when bloodshed has taken place within the walls of a sacred edifice that edifice must not again be used for religious purposes until it has been ceremonially purified and re-dedicated. Thus, for the space of a month, no ceremonies took place within the Abbey Church, until it had been cleansed by the Bishop of Down and Connor, in Ireland, who acted, on this occasion, for the Bishop of Worcester, who was the diocesan.

It now only remains to describe the changes which took place at the Dissolution of the abbeys. First, however, it must be pointed out that the nave of Tewkesbury had long served as the parochial church, the choir belonging to the monks. This was sometimes the case in

towns possessing a monastic foundation, though sometimes the secular church was detached as at Evesham, or connected only with the west end as at Sherborne, or side by side with it as at Leominster. Thus the inhabitants retained their rights over the nave, whilst the choir and the abbey buildings fell into the hands of Henry VIII. Wakeman, who was abbot at his time, surrendered his trust and received a pension of £266, 13s. 4d. as the reward of his complaisance. Moreover, on the establishment of the See of Gloucester, he became its first bishop. The annual value of the abbey revenues was then estimated at about £1600, not including the site, which was sold for £2284, nor the value of the buildings themselves. Fortunately the choir and its chapels were purchased from the king for £453, and to that happy sale is due the fact that this exquisite edifice has been preserved, almost intact, to be a joy to all beholders down to the present day. It is not necessary to say anything further as to the history of the church, save that an extensive scheme of restoration was carried out, under Sir Gilbert Scott, from 1875 to 1879, a restoration which has given much less cause for regret than many others. It is interesting to recall the fact that it was a letter of the late William Morris, written to the Athenæum apropos of the suggested restoration of Tewkesbury Abbey, which led to the foundation of that valuable Association, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

The Abbey Church is approached from a gate-

way near the Bell Inn, by a pair of gates which originally belonged to the north porch of the church itself. As one looks at the church, the first thing that impresses the eye is the large amount of Norman work visible from the exterior, having regard to the great size of the building. Especially must one be struck by the tower and by the immense Norman recess at the west end of the building. The tower is certainly unsurpassed if not unequalled amongst Norman structures of the kind, the twin towers of Exeter being the chief rivals. It is 132 feet in height from the ground to the top of the battlements. The pinnacles, which with the battlements were added in 1660, lend another sixteen feet to the altitude. It was at one time surmounted, as was the case with many other towers, by a tall spire of wood covered with lead. This was built by the first Earl of Gloucester about 1140, and fell down, during the time of service, on Easter Sunday, 1559. The pointed dripstones on the faces of the tower show the pitch of the roof which preceded the present flatter covering, which was erected in 1720. The western recess is a most remarkable arch, having seven columns on either side. It is sixty-five feet high and thirty-four feet wide, and includes the west doorway and a window of debased Perpendicular architecture which dates from 1686. The explanation of this enormous arch is not clear, and many surmises have been put forward to account for it. One thing which seems pretty evident is that the two turrets which now complete the

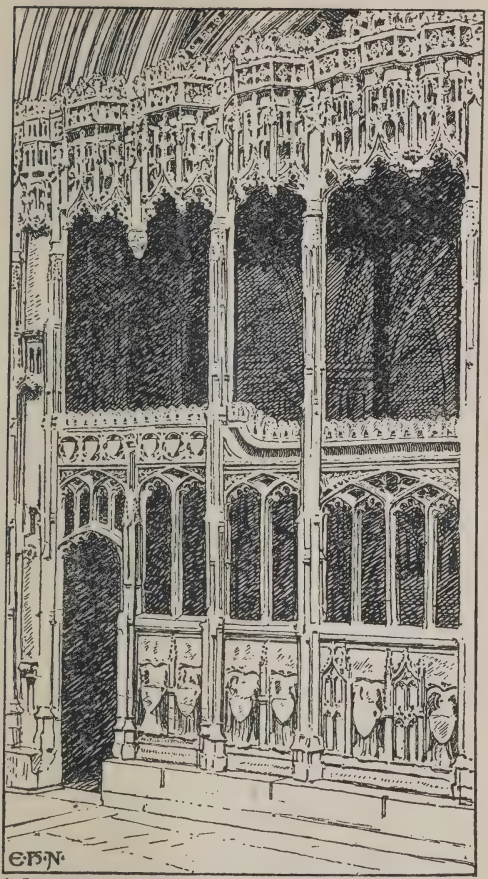
design were not part of the original plan. But whether it was intended that there should be two western towers, as at Southwell, or a single western tower, or whether there was yet a third idea in the head of the architect cannot be known. The north porch, which is also Norman, is of great size for that period. It possesses a parvise, and in a niche over the entrance is a figure of the Blessed Virgin and the Child, sadly mutilated by the iconoclastic fury of Puritan times.

Beyond this and beside the north transept is the remains of an early English chapel, now roofless, but clearly distinguishable for what it was by the architectural details which it presents. The doorway which now communicates with the north transept was, of course, originally an open arch, and formed the means of communication between the chapel and the main body of the church. This building seems to have been the nave attached to a choir which still forms a chapel connected indirectly with the north ambulatory. The central shaft of the arches which separated the two is still in place though built up by later masonry. Its base is surrounded by four cats, each animal represented as having in its mouth the tail of the beast in front of it. The nave seems to have been the chapel of St Eustachius consecrated in 1246. The remainder of the chapel will be considered at a later page. The south side of the church was that against which the conventual buildings and the cloisters abutted and these also may be left for further consideration. On entering the church by the

THE CHOIR, TEWKESBURY ABBEY

north door, the first object to be noticed is the broken holy-water stoup, which is attached to the first pillar to the left opposite the entrance. The visitor will naturally make for the west end, and standing under the window which occupies a portion of the interior of the great western arch, as fine a specimen of a Norman nave as the eye can desire to rest upon lies before his eyes. Only three non-cathedral churches, which were minsters in Catholic times, and eighteen cathedrals, surpass in size the Abbey Church of Tewkesbury. It is just two yards shorter and one yard narrower than the cathedral at Hereford, the great building which comes nearest to it in size. The greatest internal length is from the west window of the south aisle to the east window of the chapel of St Faith. This is 298 feet, 6 inches. The length of the church to the east window of the apse is 250 feet. The internal area is 25,200 square feet. These measurements have been taken from Mr Rowland Paul's plan. The breadth from wall to wall is 70 feet 6 inches, and the height of the vaulting from the pavement is 58 feet. There are seven massive Norman pillars on either side of the nave, but it must be remembered that the present nave more than covers the area allotted to the secular church in former days. The rood-screen originally stretched between the sixth pair of pillars. To the east of this was the conventual church, the western part belonging to the parishioners. This latter part for a considerable time after the Reformation was used as a

cemetery, and as a sacred play-house in which religious dramas were performed, but it does not appear to have been employed for the purposes of divine worship. Looking up, at each side of the great west window, two half figures will be seen projecting from the wall. According to one description they represent Adam and Eve, others take them to have been meant for Fitz-Hamon, the founder of the Norman church and Sybilla, his wife. The triforium has a narrow walk, and opens to the church by small double round-headed openings. The clerestory belongs to the period of the vaulted roof. The original roof was probably flat, made of wood and painted, of the class now to be seen at Peterborough. The existing vault belongs to the fourteenth century, and is provided with a very fine series of bosses, decorated in colour by Mr Gambier Parry, whose work in this direction may also be seen at Ely and Gloucester, and in the church which he himself erected and decorated at Highnam. These bosses are arranged in three rows, a central and two lateral. The two latter consist of angels bearing the symbols of the Passion or musical instruments or censers. The central bosses are a sort of pictorial life of Christ, and represent in order commencing from the west, (i) the Nativity, (ii) the adoration of the Shepherds, (iii) the Magi on their journey, (iv) the adoration of the Magi, (v) Christ found in the Temple, (vi) our Lord's entry into Jerusalem, (vii) the Last Supper, (viii) Christ's betrayal by Judas, (ix) the scourging at the



The Warwick Chantry Tewkesbury.

Pillar, (x) the Crucifixion, (xi) the Resurrection, (xii) the Ascension, (xiii) the Day of Pentecost, (xiv) the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin, (xv) the Last Judgment. The nave aisles, which are low in comparison with the nave itself, had originally a lean-to roof, afterwards superseded by the present vault. The windows of the north aisle belong to the fourteenth century, and were partly blocked up by masonry until 1825, when they were restored to their present condition. Those of the south aisle are early Decorated. The base and shaft of the font are old. The remainder of the font together with the lectern, pulpit and screen are modern. In the north aisle, close to the transept, is a tomb, which has been commonly supposed to be that of Lord Wenlock, killed, for supposed treachery, at the battle of Tewkesbury, by the Duke of Somerset. It is, however, of an earlier date. Within a recessed arch is the recumbent effigy of a knight with his feet resting against a lion. "The armour is worth noticing, as it is curious. The gorget is of edge-ringed mail, the surcoat is blazoned with a chevron between three leopards' faces. Banded mail, with which the knight is dressed, is rarely met with in monuments, only three other instances being known, viz., Newton Solney, Tollard Royal and Dodford" (Massé).

At the east end of the south aisle is the door which formerly led into the cloisters. It stands within the original Norman doorway. The cloisters, says Mr Massé, "were of two periods

of Perpendicular work, and though smaller than those at Gloucester (80 feet as compared with 148 feet) seem to have been enriched with panelling and arcading in every way as fine, judging from the stone which shows the spring of the arches near the cloister door. The doorway from the cloister to the south aisle is a beautiful piece of fifteenth century work. It consists of a low pointed arch, struck from two centres, in the hollow moulding of which are canopies. Below are pedestals for figures. At the top the arch is embattled, and above it are niches, seven in all, with pedestals and canopies, richly ornamented and carved. On either side, over the canopy, is an angel bearing a plain shield. . . . Two bays of the cloister walk are now being vaulted, ostensibly to protect the doorway; and a proposal has been made that the north alley should be rebuilt." In the floor of the south aisle, though this is probably not its original situation, is a stone with the following inscription in Norman-French, carved in Lombardic capitals: "LEGER : DE : PARR : GYT : YCY : DYEUX : DE : SA : ALME : EN : AYT : MERCY."

Another curious inscription in the nave is an acrostic on the name of Thomas Merrett, a surgeon, who died in 1669 :—

"T hough only stone salutes the reader's eye,
H ere in deep silence precious dust doth lye,
O bscurely sleeping in Death's mighty store,
M ingled with common earth till time's no more:
A gainst death's stubborn laws who dares repine,
S ince so much *Merrit* did his life resign.

"M urmurs and tears are useless in the grave,
E lse he, whole vollies at his tomb might have;
R est here in peace, who like a faithful steward
R epaired the church, the poor and needy cured.
E ternall mansions do attend the just,
T o clothe with immortality their dust,
T ainted (whilst under ground) with worms and rust."

The north transept is chiefly Norman, but has a large Decorated window in its west wall. It is occupied by the Grove organ, given in the Jubilee year of 1887. Immediately upon entering the north side of the ambulatory is, on the left, the entrance to a chapel, or pair of chapels, opened up to the church in 1875, and until the middle of the last century used as a Free Grammar School. They now form the choir vestry. This part of the church was, no doubt, originally Norman, with an apsidal termination and a super-imposed chamber, like its fellow of the opposite side. It was enlarged in the thirteenth century by Prior Henry Shipton. It seems to have been a double chapel, containing altars dedicated to SS. James and Nicholas. In front of the altar of St James were buried, after the battle of Tewkesbury, the bodies of the Duke of Somerset, Lord Thomas Courtenay, the Earl of Devon, Sir Richard Courtenay, Lord John Somerset, and Sir Humphrey Hadley, the corpse of Sir Thomas Tresham having been placed in front of the pillar between the altars of SS. James and Nicholas.

From this chapel the choir of the early English chapel is entered. It will be remem-

bered that the roofless nave of this chapel has already been seen on the exterior of the church. This was probably the older Lady Chapel, and used for that purpose prior to the building of the later Lady Chapel, which has now disappeared. The ornamentation of this chapel, though much mutilated, is still very beautiful, notably the trefoil-headed arcading on the north wall, with spandrels containing fine sprays of foliage. In the west wall is a window whose moulding shows two sets of completely undercut chevrons, pointing in opposite directions. The east window contains modern glass, with reproductions of the curious figures drawn in the MS. chronicle of the Abbey belonging to Sir Charles Isham of Lamport. Reproductions of these figures will be found in Mr Blunt's "Tewkesbury Abbey." From the north, these windows represent (i) Oddo and Doddo, the mythical Saxon founders; (ii) Fitz-Hamon and Sibylla, his wife, the founders of the Norman Abbey; (iii) Robert, Earl of Gloucester, 1089-1123; (iv) The Countess of Warwick, 1439.

The eastern extremity of the ambulatory is provided with a crown of chapels, very similar in arrangement to that still existing at Westminster Abbey, and having as their centre the Lady Chapel at the eastern end. The foundation of a similar group of chapels has recently been laid bare at Hales Abbey, in the same county of Gloucester, and the modern minster at Downside has a like arrangement. The first chapel is that of St Margaret, which is separated from

the rest of the ambulatory by a screen containing the late Decorated tomb of Sir Guy de Brien, third husband of Lady Elizabeth de Spencer, standard-bearer to Edward III. at the battle of Crecy. The central boss of the vaulting of this chapel represents the Coronation of the Virgin.

The next chapel, that of St Edmund, is partly divided into two portions, no doubt for the accommodation of two altars. The central boss of the vaulting of this chapel represents a lion being attacked by a horse, ram, monkey, wolves and other animals, perhaps a representation of one of Æsop's fables. The other bosses are mostly concerned with the story of Aedmund, King and Martyr, one of them showing the royal saint tied to a tree and shot at by the Danes. This chapel is partly cut off from the ambulatory by what is known as the Wakeman cenotaph. The slab of this monument bears the familiar figure of a corpse, in this case that of a monk, in the process of decay, and being devoured by lizards, snails, and other creatures. This slab rests upon a piece of open tracery, which can be seen to form three crosses. Over the body is an ogee arch, with a heavy ogee pendant hanging from it. Above this again is a heavy canopy, incomplete, and in three divisions. There is some doubt as to whom this tomb really belongs, for it is of earlier date than the time of Wakeman, the abbot who betrayed his trust to Henry VIII. If, indeed, it was erected by him, he does not lie here, for dying as Bishop of Gloucester he

was buried at Forthampton. Beyond this monument is the arch by which the Lady Chapel was entered. Little is known as to this adjunct to the abbey, but it is traditionally said to have been 100 feet in length. The Commissioners of Henry VIII. gave instructions that the Lady Chapel was to be pulled down, as it was unnecessary, and this appears to have been the building referred to.

Opposite to the arch of entrance to the Lady Chapel is an iron grating in the floor of the ambulatory, which forms the entrance to the Clarence vault. In this were interred the remains of the unfortunate Duke of Clarence and his wife Isabelle. It is unnecessary to refer more fully to these or to other historic personages buried in the Abbey since mention has been made of them in the notes which form the commencement of the present chapter. A modern inscription, composed by Mr Niblett, is engraved upon a brass let into the floor over this vault, and reads:—

"Dñs Georgius Plantagenet dux Clarencius et Dñā Isabelle Neville, uxor ejus qui obierunt haec 12 Decembris, A° Dñi 1476, ille 18 Feb., 1477.

Macte veni sicut sol in splendore,
Mox subito mersus in cruore."

The badge of the house of York, two suns in splendour, are also engraved on this brass. From this point the stone-screen work of the back of the choir, work which belongs to the fourteenth century, can well be studied.

The first chapel on the south side at the east end of the ambulatory is the largest of the whole series, and is generally believed to be that dedicated to St Faith. It is pentagonal, and opens to the ambulatory by a fine arch. The next chapel may have been that dedicated to St John the Baptist, but its ascription is very uncertain. At the present time it is a sort of museum for scraps of stone and other objects connected with the abbey, or even unconnected with it, like the swords of a local volunteer regiment formed during the Napoleonic scare. Some of the fragments of stone carving are interesting, and mention may specially be made of a figure of St John the Baptist, in a camel's skin, and girt with a leathern girdle. The iron rings which belonged to the coffin of Sir Hugh le Despencer are also here.

The third chapel was the sacristy of the abbey, and has a room over it which is provided with a fireplace. This apartment, which is reached by a staircase from the sacristy was, no doubt, for the accommodation of the sacristan. From the windows on the little staircase leading to this apartment he could look both into the sacristy and into the church, and see that all the treasures under his charge were safe. Before entering the chapel the tomb of an unknown abbot may be noticed. The lid of the coffin bears a rich floriated cross, with the figure of an abbot at one end and of a lamb at the other. The arch surrounding the recess in which the tomb is placed is ornamented with the ball-flower, and a

curious figure of a demon will also be observed. The sacristy is entered by a doorway, provided with three brackets for statues. On the back of the door itself is some curious iron-work which is said to have been forged by the monks from swords and armour left after the battle of Tewkesbury. The windows of the sacristy are small and high up for the protection of the valuable contents of the room. There is much ball-flower ornament to be seen, and a piscina exists in the wall. Beyond this room, and between it and the south transept, are two tombs let into the thickness of the Norman wall. The first is that of the only Abbot of Tewkesbury, whose name is of any particular historical interest, Alan (1187-1202). He had previously been Prior of St Saviour's, Canterbury, was a personal friend of St Thomas, and wrote his biography. This is the oldest tomb in the abbey, and belongs to the early English period. The lid of the coffin is of Purbeck marble, and bears the words, "Alanus, Dominus Abbas." Along the right-hand edge is the inscription, "Hic iacet Dominus Alanus Abbas." This tomb was opened in 1795, when the body, enveloped in the sacred vestments, was found in excellent preservation. The coffin also contained a wooden pastoral staff and a chalice. The next recess to this contains no coffin. There are laid down here some of the old encaustic tiles which have been found in different parts of the church. A memorial to Mrs Craik, the authoress of "John Halifax, Gentleman," and other works, will

be noticed on the south-east pier of the tower.

The south transept possesses a blocked doorway, which formerly led into the cloisters, and in the recess of which are some more encaustic tiles. Connected with this transept is a Norman chapel with an apsidal termination. The east wall above the present communion-table has been provided with a Salviati mosaic, which is very much out of place, and mars the appearance of the beautiful little chapel. Over the chapel is a large vaulted room, open to the transept. Various absurd ideas have been entertained about this chamber by people who were wholly ignorant of the usual arrangements of a monastery. It is clearly a chamber connected with the infirmarium, from which the convalescent monks could hear Mass without actually descending to the church. Such chambers are not uncommon in monastic remains, and are even to be seen in old houses, such as that at Compton Wynyates. On the south wall of this transept is a brass plate which was formerly in the choir floor, which commemorates the interment of the unfortunate Prince Edward. This brass, which was laid down in 1796, bears the following inscription :—

"NE TOTA PEREAT MEMORIA
EDWARDI PRINCIPIS WALLIAE
POST PROELIUM MEMORABILE
IN VICINIS ARVIS DEPUGNATUM
CRUDELITER OCCISI HANC TABULAM
HONORARIUM DEPONI CURABAT
PIETAS TEWKESBURIENSIS
ANNO DOMINI MDCCXCVI."

In 1680, or shortly before that date, there was, according to a writer of that period "a fair tombstone of grey marble, the brass whereof has bin pickt out by sacrilegious hands, directly underneath the Tower of this Church, at the entrance into the Quire, and sayed to be layd over Prince Edward, who lost his life in cool blood in the dispute between York and Lancaster, at which time the Lancastrians had the overthrow."

Perhaps this may be a convenient place to mention that another tomb which used to rest under the tower has also disappeared. This was the burial-place of the Duke of Warwick, who was also King of the Isle of Wight. Up to an early date in the last century the slab over this grave still remained, though it had been bereft of its brasses, no doubt stolen during Puritan times. The lower part of the choir is of Norman architecture, but the upper part was pulled down and rebuilt in the early part of the thirteenth century, when the Norman pillars were raised by three feet and supplied with Decorated Capitals. The windows and roof are of late fourteenth-century work. The roof is a very fine piece of work, with well carved bosses, most of which represent vine-leaves. The suns in the centre will be recognised as the favourite badge of Edward IV., and are said to have been put up after the battle of Tewkesbury. A large boss immediately above the rails of the present sacrarium is that from which the sanctuary lamp used to hang in

Catholic times. The stone slab used as the top of the present communion-table had had a curious history. Mr Massé says that it "is supposed by some to have been the altar mentioned in the Abbey Chronicles of 1239, but any early English features have been destroyed beyond recognition. It is reputed to be the largest altar in England, but, at any rate, it may be said to be the longest. Originally set up in its present situation, it seems to have been buried in the choir by the monks, perhaps by some who were not so mercenary as the rest. Sixty-eight years afterwards it was found, and its purpose being recognised, it was set up in the middle of the choir as a communion-table. In 1730 it was transferred to the aisle, the churchwardens' accounts stating that 12s. was paid for so doing, and that 2s. 6d. was 'given to the men that did it for working all night.' The 'large entire blue stone' was then cut into two lengthwise, and was further desecrated by being converted into seats for the north porch. Earl Beauchamp, at his own expense, had the two slabs restored to their original use. Considering what the marble has gone through, its size has been well maintained. In 1607 it was 13 feet 8 inches by 7 inches, and now it is 13 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 5 inches by 5 inches. It is supported by a massive framing of oak."

The sedilia are remarkably fine, though unfortunately they have been terribly mutilated. The tabernacling which formed the canopy has been destroyed, as well as most of the eastern

seat. The foliage and the quaint beasts which form the ornamentation of the sedilia are excellent pieces of carving, and deserve careful attention. On the north-east pier of the tower is a plain corbel perforated by a hole which leads through from its lower to its upper surface. The corbel is surmounted by a carved oak case, which almost undoubtedly contained the Sanctus bell, for the hanging of which there is a hook in its upper part. This absolutely unique piece of church furniture seems to have been in use up to 1700, since the churchwardens' accounts of that date contain an entry relating to the purchase of a rope for the saint's bell. What it was used for in post-Reformation times is a little difficult to conjecture. The hole through the corbel was of course for the rope to run through. The fourteenth century windows of the choir are fine examples of the glass of that period, and, though they have suffered a good deal from neglect and injury, are still amongst the best specimens of the kind in England. The north-west window, above the Warwick Chantry, contains: (i) Fitz-Hamon, (ii) Robert Fitzroy, (iii) Hugh le Despenser, (iv) Gilbert de Clare (Tertius), tenth Earl of Gloucester. In the windows exactly opposite are: (i) Gilbert de Clare (Primus), (ii) Lord de la Zouch, (iii) Richard de Clare, (iv) Gilbert de Clare (secundus). The armour and appurtenances of these nobles are most interesting. The other windows on either side contain Scriptural personages, amongst whom may be discovered

Daniel, David, Abraham, Jeremiah, Solomon and Joel. "The east window represents the Last Judgment. In the centre Christ is depicted with uplifted hands, on which are the stigmata of the Passion. The side lights, from their unsymmetrical arrangement, would seem to have been rearranged, or rather disarranged, at some time. The Apostles would naturally be grouped on either side, in the outer lights. The other two lights represent St John and the Blessed Virgin. Of these figures the heads, which are modern, were put in (free of charge) in 1828 by a London glass-painter named Collins. In the five panels below are groups of persons arising from their graves; one group represents an angel disputing with the evil one for the possession of three persons bound with a chain. At the bottom are armorial bearings" (Massé). On the north side of the choir is the beautiful little chapel known as the Warwick Chantry, and it may be remarked here that this as well as the other objects now to be described, though described in this place, must be examined, if they are to be properly appreciated, both from the choir and the ambulatory. The Warwick Chantry was erected by Isabelle le Despenser in memory of her first husband Ricardus de Bello Campo. It was dedicated in honour of St Mary Magdalene, St Barbara and St Leonard, and seems to have been known by the name of the first of these saints. The chapel opens into the choir and into the north aisle, and consists of two storeys. The upper

storey has a stone groined roof surmounted by tabernacle work of unrivalled beauty. What the object of this part of the chapel was is not clear. Perhaps it may have been intended to carry a kneeling figure like that on the opposite side. The lower storey, or chapel proper, had two ceilings, the lower of which extends only over its west end. It is supported by two slender pillars. There are a number of armorial bearings upon the chapel, including those of England, France, Spain, the de Clares and the Despencers. Mr Knight remarks of this chapel: "There can be but one opinion on the praise which belongs to the exquisiteness of finishing by which the several parts of it are distinguished; the entablature, wedged between two of the old pillars of the choir, and appearing to rest upon light columnar buttresses of singular beauty, give us an assemblage of filigree and fretwork, which may vie with the finest specimens of similar workmanship in the kingdom: the elegant palm-leaved parapet which occurs in the division between the storeys—the numerous escutcheons blazoned in their proper colours—the niches, and pedestals, under their respective canopies, once ornamented with figure which fanaticism has dislodged—the slender shafts supporting a higher apartment, probably the rood-loft, in the inside of the fabric, from whence half-figures of angles are seen to issue—the pendants dropping, like congelations in a grotto, from a roof adorned with the most delicate tracery spread over it like a web—

TOMB OF SIR HUGH LE DESPENSER, TEWKESBURY ABBEY

these and the countless multitude of minuter beauties almost distract attention, and overwhelm the judgment with their different claims to notice."

The inscription around this chapel is as follows: "Mementote dñē Isabelle le Despenser, Cometisse de Warrewyk, quae hanc capellam fundavit in honorē bte Marie Magdalene et obiit Londiniis apud Mnēs aō dñī MCCCCXXXIX. die Sci Jhis Evgste. Et sepulta est ī choro ī dextra partis sui: cuj. aīe ppitietur Deus. Amen." The next chapel to the east of this is that of Fitz-Hamon, known as the Founder's Chapel. The screen-work of this was erected by Abbot Parker in 1397, and belongs to an early part of the Perpendicular period. The fan-tracery of the ceiling, which was originally decorated with colour, is very good. The marble top of the tomb has been robbed of its brass, and the inscription which follows, which used to run round the cornice, has also disappeared:—

> "In ista capella jacet Dñūs Robertus
> Filius Hamonis hujus loci Fundator."

The next monument to the east is that of Sir Hugh le Despenser, and of his wife, who had subsequently married Sir Guy de Brien. There is a canopy over this tomb, the equal of which it would be difficult to discover. This canopy belongs to the Decorated period, and consists of an arched roof supported by three wonderfully beautiful arches. Above this are four tiers of

tabernacling work gradually decreasing in size. All the statues which this tomb originally bore have been removed. The effigies under the canopy are of alabaster. Sir Hugh has a spherical bascinet, with a camail of chain-mail. His jupon bears his arms. He has a shirt of chain-mail and plate-armour on his arms and legs. His wife has a long robe and a square head-dress.

Opposite to the Founder's Chapel is that of the Holy Trinity, which is believed to have been founded by Elizabeth, Lady de Burgersh, in memory of her husband, Edward, Lord Despenser, who died in 1375. The fan-tracery in the roof of this chapel is of great beauty, but its most remarkable feature is the figure of the Lord Despenser, which is placed on the roof, in an attitude of prayer, and under a canopy. He looks towards the spot at that time occupied by the high altar. This chapel has been a good deal mutilated. The last group of objects, but not the least interesting to be noted before leaving the choir, is that of the places of interment of various personages important in the history of the abbey, and, in the cases of some at least, in the history of this country also. Under the centre of the tower is the resting-place of Prince Edward, marked by a modern brass, with the following inscription composed by Mr Niblett: "Hic jacet Edwardus princeps Walliae, crudeliter interfectus dum adhue juvenis Anno Domini 1471, mensis Maii, die quarto. Eheu hominum furor: matris tu sola lux es et gregis ultima spes." As already mentioned, the

Duke of Warwick, King of the Isle of Wight, was also interred under the tower. Further towards the east, and in a line with the Warwick Chantry, are the graves of the de Clares. Beginning at the north side, the first is that of Maud de Burgh, with the following inscription: "Ci git Maud de Burgh la veuve comitisse de Gloucestre et Hertford, que mourust le 2 juillet l'ann grace 1315. Nous cherchons celle que est á venir." The fine brass which must have filled the matrix on this slab has been robbed. The next tomb is that of her husband, Gilbert de Clare (tertius), with the inscription: "Gilbertus tertius nomine Glocestrie et Hertfordie comes decimus ultimus obiit 23 Junii 1314 proelio occisus Scotus gavisus." The third tomb is that of the Red Earl, Gilbert secundus, with the inscription: "Gilbertus secundus, cognomine Rufus, comes Glocestrie octavus et Hertfordie septimus obiit septimo Decembris anno domini 1295 Vir strenuus et fortis cui deerat timor mortis. Ora et pugna." In the fourth lies the first Gilbert de Clare, who is thus commemorated: "Gilbertus de Clare, nomine primus comes Glocestrie et Hertfordie quintus obiit 25° Octobris anno domini 1230. Magna Charta est lex caveat deinde rex." Richard, son of this Gilbert, lies in the last of this row, at least part of him lay there, for with that fondness for distributing the body in various places, which distinguished the Middle Ages, his heart was buried at Tonbridge, his intestines at Canterbury, whilst

Tewkesbury was, so to speak, the residuary legatee. His tablet reads: "Ricardus de Clare, comes Glocestrie septimus et Hertfordie sextus obiit 15° Julii anno domini 1262. Dum petit crucem sic denique petit lucem." Still further towards the east and close to the steps leading up to the sacrarium are the graves of the Despensers. Again commencing at the north the first tomb is that of Richard Despenser, with the inscription: "Ricardus le Despenser baro octavus et Burgersh baro quintus obiit anno domini 1414 dum adhuc adolescens. Flos crescit et mox evanescit." Next to him lies his father, Thomas le Despenser, whose tablet is inscribed: "Thomas le Despenser baro septimus et Glocestrie comes tertius decimus et ultimus crudeliter interfectus 15° Januarii anno domini 1400. Cibell angau na cywillydd," which last Welsh phrase means "rather death than dishonour." The last of these tombs is that of Isabelle, daughter of the last and Countess of Warwick, Abergavenny, Worcester, and Albemarle. Her inscription reads: "Mementote dominae Isabelle le Despenser Comitissae de Warwick quae obiit anno domini 1439 die Sancti Johannis Evangelistae. Mercy Lord Jesu." The tomb which originally stood in the place now occupied by this slab was apparently constructed according to the directions given in her will, which were that she was to be laid on the right hand side of her father, and that her effigy was to represent her entirely naked, which may be taken to mean

without her robes of state. She was to have her hair cast backwards. St Mary Magdalene, to whom she had dedicated the chapel built in honour of her husband, was to be laying her hands across. St John the Evangelist was to be placed on her right hand, and St Anthony on her left.

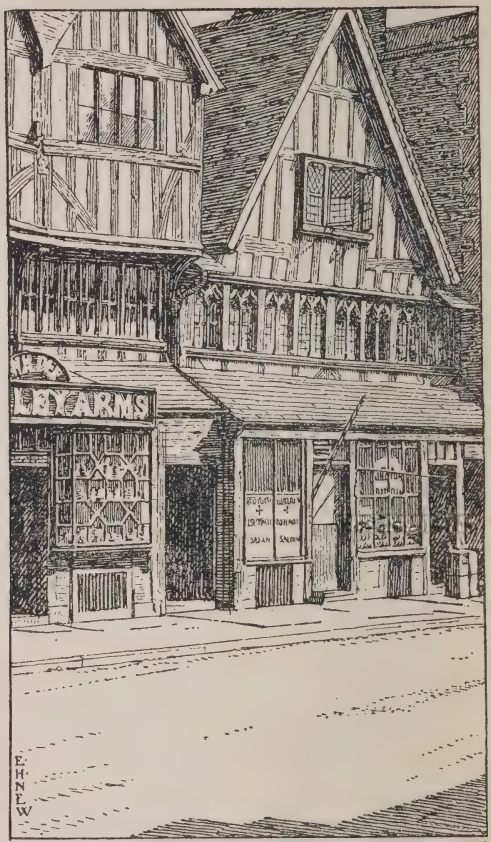
The inscriptions to the above burying-places have a modern ring about them, and lack those requests for prayers for the soul of the deceased, which form so constant a part of mediæval epitaphs. They were in fact all the work of the late Mr Niblett, of Haresfield Court. The organ in the choir was originally in Magdalen College, Oxford, and is said to have been played upon by John Milton. It was removed to Hampton Court, whence it returned to Oxford, and was there repaired by Renatus Harris, grandson of its original builder. In 1736 it was again transferred to Tewkesbury.

In the churchyard, and to the west of the church itself, is a house erected on the site of the Abbots' lodgings, which retains a pretty oriel window. The entrance gateway of the abbey is also in existence, and is a fine piece of architecture. Tewkesbury was once famous for its mustard, and Falstaff alludes to this fact when he makes use of the proverb, "thick as Tewkesbury mustard." Fuller also draws attention to this local industry. "Mustard, the best in England (to take no larger compasse), is made at Tewkesbury. It is very wholesome for the clearing of the head, moderately taken;

and I believe very few have ever surfeited thereof, because not granted time, but demanded present payment for the penalty of the excesse, turning Democritus himself presently to Heraclitus, as the Husbandman Poet doth observe:—

'Seque lacessente fletum fractura sinapi.'
Columella.

It is generally used in England, and the jest is well known of two serving men contesting about superiority. 'My master,' says one, 'spends more in mustard than thine in beef.' Whereunto the other returned, 'The more saucy men his followers.' But, seriously, this should raise our gratitude to God for the plentiful provisions of flesh and fish spent in this land, when mustard, a mere complement to both, amounteth to more thousands of pounds by the year than will be believed." Which latter fact Colman and other purveyors of that condiment have doubtless often congratulated themselves upon. The town contains many interesting old houses, with much good carved work about them. The best of these, which is represented in one of the illustrations to this book, is situated in the principal street, and has a beautiful row of small trefoil-headed windows, now exposed to view after being hid by plaster for many years. Botanists will be interested to know that on the Mythe Tute, an eminence near the river, and just outside the town, woad, with which our British ancestors are supposed to have stained their bodies blue, still grows in profusion.



TEWKESBURY

CHAPTER VIII

DEERHURST—PERSHORE

THERE are many spots of interest in the neighbourhood of Tewkesbury of which no mention can be made here, but there is one at least which no antiquary would willingly miss, and of which, therefore, some description must be placed before the reader. This place is Deerhurst, which from a purely antiquarian point of view, as distinguished from the architectural, scarcely yields in interest even to its more gorgeous neighbour of Tewkesbury. The history of Deerhurst is almost entirely that of its priory. One other incident indeed there is, though it is somewhat more of a tradition perhaps than an actual and indisputable historical fact. The armies of Cnut and Aedmund Ironside met here in 1016, the forces being drawn up on either side of the river. Now the legendary part comes in, which is that Cnut and Aedmund decided to fight a duel in order to settle the matters at issue between them. This duel it is said was to have taken place on a small island in the river close by Deerhurst, but in the end a truce was completed between the two armies and hostilities whether personal or general were

avoided. This island is no longer in existence as such. According to some authorities it is now represented by a low-water shoal in the river. According to another account, which has some etymological evidence to support it, the river has altered its course slightly since that time, and what was once an island is now a meadow, with the stream beside it. This meadow is called the Naight, which may very easily be a corruption of the eyot or islet. The village of Deerhurst is one of the has-beens, for what glory it once possessed has long since fled, and had, indeed, disappeared in the days when Leland wrote, as will appear from the following account which he gives of the place :—

"*Deirhurst* in *Glocestershir.*

"It standith as *Severne* Ryver cummith doune in *laeva ripa* a Mile beneath *Theokesbyri.* The site of the Towne, as it now is, is in a maner of a Medow. So that when *Severne* much risith the Water cummith almoste aboute the Towne. It is to be supposid that it was of olde tyme lesse subjecte to Waters, and that the Botom of *Severne* then deper withoute Choking of Sandes dyd at Flouddes leste hurte. It is now but a poore Village, and the Lordship longgid of late partely to the Abbate of *Theokesbyri.* Suche Parte as *Westminstre* had was longging to *Persore* Abbay tyl *William Conqueror* gave it away. *Dereburst* Abbay had the Residew afore that the House of *Derehurst* was alienatid from the Monasterie of S. *Dionise* by *Parise,* to the which it was a Celle, and one *Hugo Magason* a

Monke of S. *Dionise* was the laste Prior aliene there yn King *Edwarde* the 4. Dayes, and aboute that tyme it was dissolvid, and moste of the Landes of it given to *Foderingey*, and *Eton* College, as it is said, has sum Title. After Sute betwixte the Colleges and the Abbay of *Theokesbyri* Debatinges was, and after long Tracte a final Ende made in Henry the 7. days that the Priory of *Goldeclife*, longging then newly to *Theokesbyri*, should go with the Landes to *Foderingey* College, and *Dehorhurst* onto *Theokesbyri*. *Bede* makith mention that yn his tyme there was a notable Abbay at *Derehurst*. It was destroyed by the *Danes*. *Werstanus* fled thens, as it is sayde, to *Malverne*. The *Frenche* Order was on Erection syns the Conquest. The olde Priory stode Est from *Severn* a Bow shotte, and North of the Town. There remayne yet dyverse Names of Streates, as *Fischar* Streate and other. But the Buildinges of them be gone. Ther be yet 2. Fayres kept one at eche day *in inventione and exaltatione Crucis*. There is a Parke bytwixt the old Plotte of *Holme* Castelle and it, but it longgid to *Holme* the Erle of *Glocester's* House and not to it."

This somewhat confused account of the history of Deerhurst Priory gives most of the details which must be now somewhat more amply set forth. In the first place, however, it must be pointed out that Leland is under a mistake when he makes St Bede state that Deerhurst existed in his days. As stated in the last chapter there is the legend that Oddo

built a church at Deerhurst for the soul of his brother Aelfric, but that will be dealt with further on. At present it may be said that the first direct evidence of the existence of a priory at Deerhurst is in 804, when a grant of lands in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire was made to it. So that its foundation may be set back to a point earlier than the date just mentioned. It is highly probable that the Danes did ravage Deerhurst as they would hardly have neglected that foundation when troubling its neighbours. As to Werstan and his connection with this spot, that matter has been touched upon in the chapter dealing with the history of Malvern. We come now to the time of Eadweard the Confessor, in whose days the abbey possessed forty thousand acres, though it does not seem to have been itself a large foundation. This king handed over the abbey with all its possessions to the Abbey of St Denis in Paris, with the result that Deerhurst descended from the position of an abbey to that of an alien priory, and with this loss much of its prestige and, of course, its independence, disappeared. Part of its lands, it may be added, were handed over with the Manor of Pershore to the king's new abbey of St Peter at Westminster, then in process of erection. The priory remained in the possession of St Denis until the reign of King John, when that monarch seized it for himself. After a period during which it was held by Richard, Duke of Cornwall, who drove out the monks and destroyed their buildings, it again returned

to St Denis, until the time of Edward I. Subsequent kings seem to have harried the unfortunate priory and used it as a milch cow, when money was wanted, until the time of Henry IV., when for a time the house was placed on a more independent footing, and extensive building operations were undertaken. Henry VI., however, who wanted money for the College at Eton which he founded, seized Deerhurst and gave part of its possessions to his College and part to Tewkesbury. After litigation a settlement was finally arrived at in 1469, when the Bishop of Worcester formally annexed Deerhurst to Tewkesbury, providing that the "Abbot of Tewkesbury was to find and maintain there one monk in priest's orders, to be called Prior or Warden, four other monks, and one secular priest daily to perform divine service in that priory." From this date the history of Deerhurst is merged in that of its more prosperous sister, and at the Dissolution the properties were dispersed with those of the greater house.

Before entering the church the exterior of the tower claims some attention. It at one time possessed a steeple, but this was blown down in 1666, at which time the height of the tower itself may have been diminished. About thirty-five feet of the existing structure is of pre-Conquest date, the upper portion being later. The nave of the church is entered from the west, and here, as at Tewkesbury, this part of the church was secular and belonged to the parishioners, the choir being the monks' portion

of the edifice. The nave is provided with aisles separated from the central part by an early English arcade, which was added in the thirteenth century. The clerestory windows belong to the early part of the fifteenth century, and replace the earlier apertures, which may very possibly have been circular. Looking towards the west end of the nave several very early features will be observed. The doorway of entrance into the church has a round head of characteristic pre-Conquest type. Above this on either side are two brackets which probably once assisted in carrying a gallery of some sort. Above this again is a triangular opening, like others to be seen in the north and south walls of the nave. This opening looks out of a chamber in the tower, from which also at some period opened the doorway, now blocked up, which will be seen by the side of the triangular aperture Still higher are two very remarkable windows, with triangular heads, of excessively massive architecture. On the apices of these rests a flat stone without carving or inscription. The south aisle is of the twelfth and the north of the thirteenth century. In the latter is a memorial window to H. E. Strickland, a well-known geologist in his day, who was killed by a railway train in 1853 when he was examining a cutting at the entrance of the Charborough tunnel on the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway. Some of the subjects in this window typify the favourite pursuit of the person whom it com-

PRECONQUEST WORK IN CHURCH, DEERHURST

memorates. In the same aisle is a remarkably fine brass, one of the best in the country, which was laid down to the memory of Sir John Cassy in 1400. He was Chief Baron of the Exchequer to Edward III. He is represented in his judicial robes, and his wife, Alicia, who lies beside him, is dressed in a long flowing garment. Her dog lies at her feet, and on his side is his name "Tirri." The inscription is in very excellent lettering, and the words are separated from one another by small ornaments. The legend reads: "Hic jacet Johēs Cassy miles quondam Capitalis Baro Sccii[1] Regis qui obiit xxiii° die Maii Anno Dñi MCCCC et Alicia uxor ejus qūōr āīabus ppc̄r deus." There are several other brasses in the same neighbourhood, but none approaching in excellence that which has just been described. The font is tub-shaped, and made of the Cotswold oolite. It is ornamented with a spiral design arranged in eight panels. The stem is also ornamented, and whether it actually belongs to the bowl is a little in doubt, as will be seen from the following history of the two portions. The bowl was for a long time in the church at Longdon, in Worcestershire, to which it had been taken from a farmyard in Deerhurst, where it was found. In 1870 the stem portion was found in a garden, and as it was seen closely to resemble the bowl in Longdon church, the latter portion was removed from its temporary home, and the two parts, once more reunited, were placed in

[1] Scaccarii, *i.e.* Exchequer.

their present position. The step on which the font rests is of the fourteenth or fifteenth century. The choir once possessed an apsidal sanctuary, and the arch of communication, now blocked up, can still be seen. Above this arch is a Perpendicular window, which may have been placed there after the disappearance of the sanctuary. It is possible that the sanctuary may have been destroyed by the fall of the eastern tower which the church once possessed, but there are no records extant as to when this came down, or why the alterations at the east end were made. Up to a comparatively short time ago the communion-table stood in the middle of the chancel, the position of all such tables in Puritan times, and there are still seats running round three of its sides. A full account of the architecture of this church will be found in an article by Mr Micklethwaite in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. lxiii., and this is quoted in Mr Massé's admirable little work on Tewkesbury and Deerhurst. To these works the reader in search of more detailed information may be referred. At the east end of the church is a farm-house in which and in the buildings connected with it are some remains of the conventual edifice.

There is another building in Deerhurst of great archæological interest, and that is the Saxon chapel which was discovered in 1885. As early as 1675 a curious inscribed stone had been found at Deerhurst and removed to the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, where it now

SAXON CHAPEL, DEERHURST

is. This stone, of which a fac-simile is now to be seen in the chapel at Deerhurst, bears the following inscription :—

"ODDA DVX IVSSIT HANC
REGIAM AVLAM CONSTVI
ATQVE DEDICARI IN HONO—
RE S TRINITATIS PRO ANIMA GER
MANI SVI AELFRICI QVE DE HOC
LOCO ASSVPTA. EALDREDVS VERO
EPS QVI EANDE DEDICAVIT II IDI
BVS APL XIIII AVTE ANNOS REG
NI EADWARDI REGIS ANGLORV."

Or in English: "Duke Odda ordered this royal hall to be built and dedicated in honour of the Holy Trinity for the soul of his brother Aelfric, which was taken up from this place. It was Bishop Ealdred who dedicated the same on the 12th of April in the 14th year of the reign of Edward, King of the English." In the chimney-stack of a house was found a second inscribed stone, which is clearly part of an altar-slab, though whether its dedication is to the Blessed Trinity or to St Peter the Apostle cannot fully be determined. After the Reformation, in order that all objects connected with the offering up of Mass might be destroyed, it was ordered that altar stones should be taken down, and the result is that most of them have disappeared, though they may be found in the most curious situations, sometimes forming the threshold of a door. In at least one case, near Painswick, one will be found, with its inscription intact, acting as the lintel of the doorway

leading into a cow-house. The finding of the altar stone seems to make it tolerably certain that the little building with which we are now concerned was the chapel built by Duke Oddo, and of which the dedication stone is now at Oxford. The chapel consists of a nave and a chancel communicating with one another by a small round-headed arch. Only a portion of this arch is original. In the north-east corner of the chancel is a bracket of excellent work belonging to the early English period, which would seem to point to the fact that this chapel was in full use at that time.

Another great abbey—a mitred abbey in its day, whose abbot had a seat in parliament—is that of Pershore, situated on the right bank of the Avon in a country long famous for its orchards. The place seems to have derived its name, indeed, from the pears which were grown there, but at the present day it is better known for the plums which are produced there in such great profusion. The abbey at this place seems to have been founded in 689, when Ethelred I. was king, and by his nephew Oswald. Tradition relates that after Ethelred had resigned his throne and become Abbot of Bardney, a duke, named Delfere, seized the abbey and its possessions, for which act of sacrilege he died eaten up by worms. Oddo, whose name we have seen indistinctly flitting through the early history of both Tewkesbury and Deerhurst, is said to have been his son, to have restored their possessions to the monks and to have been finally

interred in their church. Finally, for though he is said to have died in 725 at Deerhurst, his remains were not brought to Pershore until 1056. The abbey records relate that in 1259, when a new pavement was being laid down in the Lady Chapel, the bones of Oddo were found in a leaden coffin, on which was the following inscription: "ODDA DUX QVONDAM PRISCIS TEMPORIBUS AEDWINUS VOCATVS IN BAPTISMO CVLTOR DEI QVI MONACHVS EFFECTVS FVIT ANTE MORTEM SVAM HIC REQVIESCAIT. SIT EI GAVDIVM IN PACE CVM CHRISTO DEI. AMEN." From what has been said in earlier chapters, however, it will be understood that all the statements which are made about this Oddo and his brother are to be taken with considerable reserve, for it cannot be said that their history has been by any means cleared up. The monastery no doubt suffered, like all its fellows, from the incursions of the Danes, so that none of the early records are forthcoming, and we know nothing really of its condition until the time of Eadgar. At this period the monastery was in the hands of secular canons, but Oswald, Bishop of Worcester, transformed all the establishments of this kind, which seem to have sunk into a very unsatisfactory condition, to the stricter and more learned rule of the order of St Benedict. The abbey was now consecrated to the Blessed Virgin, and St Peter and Paul, and received many benefactions from the king, and also from a certain Egil or Alward, Duke of Dorset. He rebuilt the church and he also presented it

with a relic of St Eadburh or Eadburg. This saint was a daughter of Eadweard the Elder; she died in 960 and was buried at Winchester. From the date of the reception of these relics the abbey was called the Abbey of the Blessed Virgin and St Eadburg. The monks seem to have had a great devotion to the last-named saint, and the old church at Broadway, a village which belonged to them, was dedicated to her.

The secular clergy regained the monastery for a time, but in 983 the Benedictines once more returned and held the abbey until the time of its dissolution. By the time of Domesday Pershore was not in the flourishing condition in which it might and ought to have been. William of Malmesbury says that it had lost more than half of its endowments, "part had been lost by neglect, part the ambition of the rich had devoured, and the greater part had been bestowed by Edward the Confessor and William the Conqueror upon Westminster." If the hide be reckoned at one hundred acres, then at the time of Domesday Pershore possessed twelve thousand seven hundred acres of land. If this be indeed but half what it had in the days of King Eadgar, then at that period it must have been as wealthy as the better known and more famous house at Evesham.

The monks had an apartment for the reception of their novices who were studying at the university in Gloucester College, Oxford. This was the great Benedictine house at that seat of learning, and its buildings, or some of them,

form a part of the present Worcester College. At the time of the Dissolution of the greater abbeys the usual discontented monk was found or imported into the house to make complaints. In this case it was a man of the name of Richard Beerley, and as he does not figure in the list of brothers who received pensions, he either did not properly belong to the house at all or was otherwise rewarded for his useful services. The usual result followed, and the then abbot, one John Stonewell or Stanwell, handed over his trust to the king. Styles considers that, taking into account the nature of the tenures on which their lands were held, and the difference in value of money, the revenues of the abbey at the time of the Dissolution would be represented by about £25,000 per annum of our money. The nave of the church or rather the greater part of it, with all the conventual buildings, was pulled down at this time. One exception was made and that was the abbot's residence which was granted to Stanwell for his life, also, "adjoyning to the same on' garden, ij orchards wth the pools in the same," and a pension of £160 per annum, a very handsome sum in those days.

The church, which is now called the Church of the Holy Cross, consists of the choir, south transept, tower and north-east transept of the original building. The nave, with the south-east transept, the Lady Chapel, and other chapels connected with the choir were pulled down, as above mentioned, at the Dissolution. The north transept fell in 1685 or about that

time. There has been added a most incongruous little apse, with the idea apparently of forming a sacrarium to the choir, which now acts as a nave to it. This unfortunate addition destroys the effect of the church externally and still more internally, where its central window presents the most unfortunate likeness to a cigar with its pointed end turned upwards. The original apse at Pershore was different to any other in this country, though there is a similar instance at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, in that its central or eastern bay is wider than the others, thus making the arch higher than its fellows, a most happy arrangement which gave a very noble effect to the high altar.

The nave was of Norman architecture, as also the lower part of the tower and the two western transepts. The remainder of the church is of the thirteenth century, and presents most exquisite examples of the architecture of that beautiful period of church construction. The floor of the ringing chamber of the tower, which was a later addition, was taken down during the last century, the lantern portion of that part of the building being thus opened up according to the intention of its builder. The construction thus exposed is extremely fine, indeed it is generally thought that its only rival is to be found in Lincoln Cathedral. The tower is supported by four great circular arches, and the Norman part extends about as high as the roof of the choir. The remainder was built after a fire which had taken place in 1223. The lower course of this

part is of late early English work, and has arcaded panels, double windows with disengaged shafts, and carved string-courses. The south transept is of Norman work, with a groined roof added by Abbot William de Newnton in 1413. His rebus, W NEUN, with a tun is to be seen on one of the corbels in the wall of the circular staircase in the corner. The arms of the family of Boteler are also to be seen in this part of the church, probably because they contributed to the cost of the alterations therein. In this transept is the lid of a coffin bearing the effigy of a knight in a shirt of mail formed of rings set edge-wise. Attached to this is a hood of mail which covers the head. The shield is large and heater-shaped, the sword is represented as half-drawn, and a hunter's horn hangs from his side. The feet in the time of Nash rested against a hare, from which fact it has been conjectured that the knight was a member of the Harewell family, which formerly owned property in the neighbourhood. There is also an altar-tomb to an abbot, who is represented with his cowl over his head and his mitre under it. This effigy is believed to represent Abbot William de Hervington and, if so, the unusual position of the mitre may be accounted for by the fact that he had resigned his abbacy before his death. Abbot William de Newnton's monument of carved oak is here too, though what this piece of carved wood-work may have originally been designed for is not clear. Styles says that "the taste of the churchwardens in

1784, at which time the church was 'repaired and beautified,' having furnished it with a coat of bright blue paint and a gilt frame, rendered it a conspicuous object to those who visited the church from curiosity. Previously it served to patch up a partition between the choir and lesser north transept, then used as a school-room." The inscription on it is:—

"M C BIS BINOS TRIPLEX X ADDE QUARTO
ANNO WILLIUS DNS NEWNTON FEC^{T} ABBAS."

"Underneath, in the first compartment, is a sceptre and HENRY VI. In the second a crowned head and A° XII. The third is similarly occupied by a crosier and W. N. And the fourth by an abbot's head wearing the mitre and A° XXII; which if we read as the 12th of Henry VI. (1434) and the 22nd of the abbacy of William Newnton, dates his election 1413. It appears to have formed part of the stalling of he choir, the construction of which it was doubtless intended to commemorate as the work of Newnton: four complete stalls and many fragments in the south aisle still remain, and are of very similar workmanship." There are also two elaborate monuments to members of the Hazelwood family, who formerly held property at Wick, near Pershore.

The choir arcade consists of five arches on either side. Above this is a kind of combined triforium and clerestory, there being no separate triforium, but a gallery walk under the windows of the clerestory. The bosses of the roof are

magnificent pieces of carving, the cutting being of great depth. The capitals of the pillars are also very fine, and represent natural foliage, the willow and the vine being easily distinguishable. The south aisle has an excellent series of modern windows by Hardman, in which the history of the abbey is represented. The town itself does not contain any objects of interest, but there is a fine old bridge crossing the river Avon on the road to Evesham.

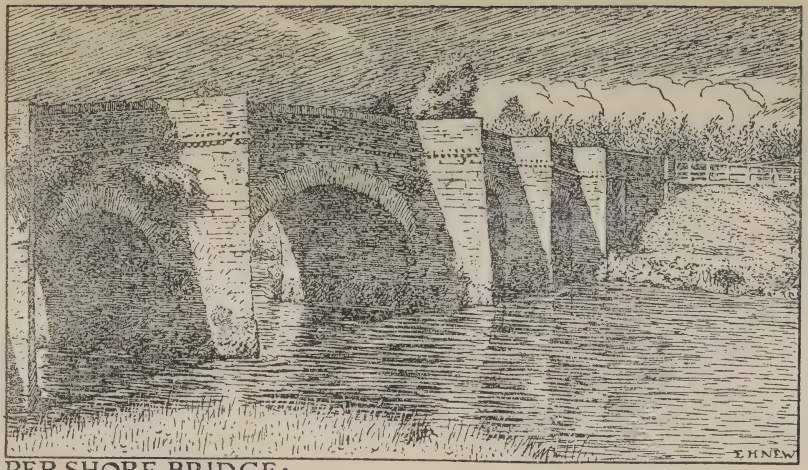
CHAPTER IX

BREDON HILL AND THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES

THERE is no more prominent object in the Vale of Evesham than that great rounded hill, known by the name of Bredon, from whose presence the traveller seems in vain to try to escape. Go where one will, Bredon is on one side or the other as the most prominent feature in the landscape, and as such it figures from any of the terraces on the Worcestershire side of the Malvern Hills. It is looked upon, and justly, as a kind of weather-glass, by all the dwellers in the country around, its reputation in this direction being commemorated by the local rhyme, a trifle bald, but quite clear in its meaning:—

> "When Bredon Hill puts on his hat,
> Men of the Vale look out for that."

The hill itself is well worth a visit if only for the sake of the magnificent view to be obtained from its summit, a view scarcely to be surpassed in England, and certainly not in the Midland Counties. But apart from this, the hill presents some objects of considerable antiquarian interest, and is surrounded by villages,



PERSHORE BRIDGE.

several of which are worthy of a visit on account of their own natural beauties and the fine churches which they possess. From Malvern to Bredon one must cross the river Severn at Upton-on-Severn, which is said to occupy the site of the Roman station of Upocessa. It is now a most uninteresting place, with a perfectly new church, which has displaced, for religious purposes, the former Georgian edifice which still stands in another part of the little town. Two points of interest, however, may be noted about it, one in connection with fiction, the other with history. The White Lion Inn, still the principal hostelry in the town, will be remembered by readers of Fielding as the scene of one of the least reputable of the episodes in the life of the disreputable Tom Jones. Indeed, it seems likely that Bredon itself was the hill on which Jones and Partridge spent a night with the mysterious Man of the Hill, and where they were the means of rescuing the fair but frail Mrs Waters from the hands of her assailants. "Aurora now first opened her casement, *Anglicé* the day began to break, when Jones walked forth in company with the stranger, and mounted Mazard Hill; of which they had no sooner gained the summit than one of the most noble prospects in the world presented itself to their view, and which we would likewise present to the reader, but for two reasons; first, we despair of making those who have seen this prospect admire our description; secondly, we very much doubt whether those who have not

seen it would understand it." Taking the other topographical indications into account, there can be little doubt that Bredon is the hill here represented under the name of Mazard.

The other incident, a real incident in this case, associated with the history of Upton, belongs to the period of the Civil War. The Severn here is crossed by a bridge, the successor of several others, of which that of Leland's time was made of wood. "*Upton*," he says, "standithe *in ripa dextra Sabrinae* apon a Cluster 4 Miles above Theokesbyry, and here is a Bridge of Wood on *Sabrine*, and here is a greate Stable of the Kings a late occupied for grete Horses." This bridge had, at the time of the Parliamentary Wars, been replaced by a stone structure of six arches, which was erected in 1605. In 1651 the Royalists partially destroyed this structure, but in their haste left behind a single plank spanning the breach which they had made. Across this narrow bridge Cromwell's soldiers are said to have made their way, and thus gained the opportunity of making the successful attack upon the position held by Massey, which shortly preceded the battle of Worcester.

To the south of the road between Upton and Bredon is the village of Strensham, a spot well worthy of a passing visit. Its principal claim to interest is that it was the scene of the birth of Samuel Butler, the author of "Hudibras." The cottage in which he was born has now disappeared, but Mr Lees describes it, in 1856,

as "a low timbered house of one storey, now forming three humble cottages. Here it is reported that Butler was born; and, if so, it is apparent that Butler's father must have been but a small farmer, and he himself likely to have been a 'needy wretch,' with an uphill course before him." The house, at the time mentioned above, was called Butler's Cot, and its owner in 1611, the year before the renowned Samuel was born, was churchwarden of the parish, which looks as if he must have been a man of some little consideration. The parish register contains an entry of his son's baptism, on February 14th, 1612, and a tablet on the north wall of the church, erected by Mr Taylor, a former lord of the manor, records the connection of Strensham with its most famous son. For five centuries this manor was held by the family of Russell, whose monuments are to be seen in the church. Sir William, the head of the family at the time of the Civil War, was a strong supporter of the king, and was one of the persons upon whom it was intended that the honour of the Royal Oak should be conferred.

Their castellated mansion, built in the time of Richard II., occupied a site now indicated by two moats, so overgrown with brushwood as to be difficult of discovery. It was demolished during the Civil Wars.

The object of principal interest in the church is the remains of an ancient rood-screen, which now forms the front of the little gallery at the west end. It consists of a series of painted

panels, each representing a saint or a royal personage. The central figure, that of a king, is believed to represent Henry VI., and amongst the other figures are those of St Peter with his keys, St Lawrence with his gridiron, and perhaps the most unusual of all in a mediæval structure, St Joseph with his carpenter's square. There are some old tiles, perhaps from the Malvern kilns, and a Norman font, adorned with semicircular arches. As already stated, the church contains many monuments to members of the Russell family, of which the most striking is that of Sir Francis, the last of the race, who is represented in the full dress of the period of Queen Anne. He reclines on one side, whilst his widow weeps over him. The climate of Strensham seems favourable to longevity, for within the communion rails is the gravestone of a former rector, one Francis Gresley, who died a centenarian in 1773, after having held his position for 68 years, whilst close to the gate of entrance into the churchyard is another and much more modern stone recording the death of another person aged 103 years.

To the north of the road between Upton and Birlingham is Defford Common, the last remnant of the ancient forest of Horewell, and the largest waste place in the county of Worcester. A ramble over this common will repay the traveller, and within its limits are some exceedingly ancient oaks, believed to have occupied their present position for at least seven hundred years. Croome Court, the seat

of the Earl of Coventry, is not far from here. Its beautiful grounds were laid out by the celebrated landscape gardener known as "Capability Brown," for the sixth earl, who was the husband of one of the beautiful Miss Gunnings. He died at the age of eighty-seven, and the portrait of his wife, with that of her equally celebrated sister, the Duchess of Hamilton, is amongst the valuable collection of family pictures which adorns the walls of the mansion. Besford church, also in the immediate neighbourhood, is a half-timbered structure, containing monuments to members of the families of Hazlewell and Sebright, a rood-screen, and other objects of interest. Between Birlingham and Eckington the river Avon is crossed by a picturesque bridge, named after the latter village. Eckington itself is a small place, possessing a church with a fine Norman west door and some excellent gurgoyles on the tower. In the interior are a number of monuments to members of the Hanford family, by whom the estate was acquired by purchase from Lord Burleigh, in 1536. The hill should now be ascended by way of Woollas Hall, the ancient mansion of the family just named. The house was rebuilt in 1611, and that date, with the inscription, "Memorare novissima"—the family motto—is to be seen upon the porch. There are, however, many remains of an older edifice incorporated in the more modern structure. The great hall is particularly interesting, and possesses a screen, above which is a music gallery, reminding one of the similar

arrangement in the Middle Temple. There is a chapel in one of the upper rooms under the roof, and the many oak-panelled rooms are of considerable beauty and interest. In the days when spits were driven so frequently by dogs, that at Woollas Hall was run by water power, obtained from a stream descending from the neighbouring hill of Bredon.

From Woollas Court the hill may be ascended, the way leading amongst thorn trees of great age and most strangely contorted, reminding one of that other thicket of ancient thorns which clothes the side of the hill above Malvern Wells. The summit of the hill at the point from which it has now been ascended is crowned by a camp of which more must shortly be said. Before considering it, however, attention must be directed to the marvellous view which is obtained from the foot of the little modern ruin, known as the Monument, originally constructed as a summer-house, with two rooms, one above, the other below. It stands at the north-western edge of the inner entrenchment of the camp, and the account of the prospect to be obtained from it has been so well summarised by Mr Lees that it may be quoted here. "From the front of this prospect-house is a most splendid and expansive view when the sky is clear. To the south the estuary of the Severn gleams in the sunbeams, with the ridges of Mendip, in Somerset, far beyond; westward the Black Mountains close to Monmouthshire frown throughout their long

extent, with the mighty Blorenge, the Sugar-loaf, and other Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire heights on their southern flanks; while northward, the rich and varied vales of Worcestershire lie in the lap of beauty, bounded in the misty distance by the twin Clees, the Wrekin, and other Salopian hills. Almost encompassing Bredon itself, the shining river Avon is seen in numerous silver convolutions, winding through the meads towards the massive-looking Norman Abbey tower, and 'bloody field' of Tewkesbury. The abbey towers of Evesham and Pershore are fine objects in the landscape at the northern base of the hill, each at different bends of the crystal Avon; far off Worcester Cathedral rises solemnly amidst clustered foliage; while, on the western side of the prospect, the range of Malvern nowhere appears to such advantage throughout its extreme length. With gleams of brightness in a clear atmosphere, some of the towns below appear so close at hand that it seems as if anyone could easily roll down into them from the top of the hill." The hill from which this prospect is obtained is what is geologically known as an outlier of the Cotswolds, from which it, as well as some of the neighbouring but lower eminences, such as Dumbleton, have been detached by a process of denudation. This fact is proved by the coincidence of the strata on the various heights. The marlstone, abounding in fossils, occupies the middle region of Bredon Hill, ranging along its sides, and form-

ing many flat-topped projections. It rests upon the lower lias below, and the upper lias shale succeeds it above. Though this is not exposed, it is marked by a grassy slope below the steep brow of the inferior oolite, which forms the summit of the hill. On Dumbleton Hill, which is of less height, the oolite does not appear, but the lias shales are obvious, and many beautiful specimens of fishes have been obtained from them. Broadway Hill, which is higher than Bredon, is also capped with oolite. The inferior oolite at Bredon has at some period been much disturbed, for in some quarters its strata are seen to be greatly shattered and dipping in all directions, often with a high degree of inclination. The camp in which the Monument or Prospect House is situated is called Kemerton Camp, from the name of the neighbouring village. It is roughly triangular in shape, defended on two sides by the steep escarpment of the hill, and elsewhere by two lines of earthworks. The space enclosed by the inner of these two lines is over thirty acres. The camp is generally assigned to the Roman period, and certainly Roman coins have been found there, but it seems very probable that, like many others throughout the land, it was originally a British work, and was subsequently adapted for their own purposes by the Roman invaders. About the beginning of the last century a considerable landslip occurred at the side of this camp, nearly causing the death of a Miss Martin of Overbury, who happened to

be riding there at the time. Allies states that, "as the late Miss Martin, of Norton, was riding along the parapet on the top of Bredon Hill, in the field called Kemerton Camp, her horse began to sink into the ground suddenly and rapidly; she however kept her seat, and the horse, which had gone down about four or five feet below the level of the firm ground, sprang up and regained his footing. So soon as Miss Martin had recovered from her surprise, she saw that a landslip had occurred, and that she had landed on the firm side of the chasm, which at that time opened about thirty feet wide at the surface, and about forty feet deep." An interesting point in connection with this landslip is that it opened up the remains of what was perhaps an ancient granary designed for the use of the occupants of the earthwork. In any case a certain amount of blackened wheat was then found under the earth. An observer quoted by Allies stated that "as the chasm opened it exposed to view a vein of black earth, about four or five inches thick, immediately under the soil, which in some places was not more than six inches deep, but varied to eighteen inches or two feet; that the black earth was supposed to be decayed wheat, as quantities of perfect grains were found in it." The discovery is a curious one, and what is most remarkable is that this mass of wheat should have been found in the earth and not in a chamber of any kind. Perhaps it may have been a cache of wheat hurriedly made

before some attack, and afterwards either have been forgotten, or perhaps, its constructor having been killed, its existence may have been actually unknown. There does seem to have been up to a late period a cave at this end of the Hill, as may be gathered from an account given by Dr Derham in his "Physico-Theology," a work published in 1712. Discoursing on the subject of limestone caves and the stalactites and stalagmites therein to be found, he says, "Such like caves as these I have myself met with in England; particularly on the very top of Bredon Hill, in Worcestershire, near the precipice, facing Pershore, in or near the old fortress, called Bemsbury Camp, I saw some years ago such a cave, which, if I mis-remember not, was lined with those stalactitical stones on the top and sides. On the top they hung like icicles, great and small, and many lay on the ground. They seemed manifestly to be made by an exudation or exstillation of some petrifying juices out of the rocky earth there. On the spot, I thought it might be from the rains soaking through, and carrying with it impregnations from the stone, the hill there being all rocky. Hard by the cave is one or more vast stones, which, if I mistake not, are incrusted with this sparry, stalactical substance, if not wholly made of it." From the allusion to the other great stones, clearly the Bambury stone and its fellows, this cave must have been near the point where the corn was found. It is possible that it may have been

destroyed by the landslip above mentioned or by some similar cataclysm, but at any rate no trace of any cave is to be found at the present day. The Bambury Stone is the most remarkable object in the camp at the present time, and has given rise to a number of surmises, some having, as might be expected, considered that it was an altar of the Druidical period. The late Mr Allies wrote a learned disquisition to prove that the real name was the Ambury Stone, that the same term was found in Amesbury or Ambresbury, near Stonehenge and other places, and that in all cases it meant anointed. But leaving aside these surmises, the rock itself is sufficiently interesting. It is a great mass of the oolite of the district, lying in its natural and original position, and permeated like so many other pieces of the Cotswold oolite with seams of stalactitical matter from the action of the weather. It is about twenty yards in circumference, four yards in height, and nearly flat on its upper surface. It lies in a huge basin about two hundred yards in circumference, which is open towards the verge of the steepest part of the escarpment of the hill. It has aptly been remarked that the rock looks like the hull of a ship lying in a dry dock, and when seen from the right point below it does indeed appear as if a huge boat was coming stern-forwards out of its harbour. Mr Allies believed that the hollow all round the rock was artificial, and that the earth and stones which had been removed from it had been employed in the construction of the

vallum which defends the camp on the opposite side. There are several other great pieces of oolite in the same camp, but none of the same size as the Bambury stone, nor does any one of them lie in an amphitheatre, natural or artificial. It is just possible that this piece of rock may have been employed as a spot for the burning of a beacon fire as a signal to the other great camps which can be seen from it. Standing as Bredon does in the midst of the vale there are quite a number of earthworks which are within signalling distance, and from which the blaze of a beacon could easily have been seen if it had been lit on the Bambury stone. Amongst these some of the greatest importance are the camps on the Herefordshire Beacon and other summits of the Malvern Range, Uley Bury, the great camp beyond Stroud, near to which is the celebrated long barrow, locally known as "Hetty Pagler's Tump." Again there is the camp on Painswick Beacon, known as "Godwin's Castle," and a variety of others might be mentioned of lesser importance. Before leaving the subject of the camp it may be mentioned in connection with its Roman construction or at least occupation, that May, in his "History of Evesham," says that "a vast number of coins, of the higher as well as lower empire, have, during late years, been ploughed up there. Among such of these as the writer has hitherto met with, occur those of Vespasian, Severus, Gallienus, Constantine and Valentinian." Allies also says that an ear-ring of silver, which weighed 60 grains, was

found with Roman brass coins of Allectus, Quintillus and Constans, the acus of a fibula, and a silver penny of one of the Edwards, in a field called Nettlebed, upon the Beckford estate situated on the south side of the hill and near to the camp. On the lower part of the ring there was a cavity formed for the reception of a gem.

On the south-western side of the hill, and not far from the village of Norton, are some other masses of oolite known as the King and Queen, near which at an early date, according to Nash, a manorial court used to be held. There are a number of other masses of rock near these, but unnamed, which seem to have been brought to occupy their present position as the result of a landslip, an event not of very uncommon occurrence in this region. Mr Lees, in his "Pictures of Nature Round Malvern," says that an "old inhabitant" of Eckington told him that a manorial court had been formerly, but was not at present, proclaimed at this spot. He further stated that he remembered that it used to be the custom to whitewash the stones before the court was held. This curious custom may have been the last existing relic of some ceremony of purification or lustration of the stones, and have come down from the times of the earliest inhabitants of the country. One of these stones seems probably to be that which was alluded to in the record of the settlement of a dispute which took place in the reign of Edward I. between the Bishop of Worcester and the Earl of Warwick, as to the boundaries of the free-warren of Hard-

wick, a hamlet of Bredon. "The great stone hanging under the hill" is one of the landmarks there spoken of. In this connection it may be remarked that the hill of Bredon is most curiously divided between the counties of Worcester and Gloucester, each owning transverse strips, a division no doubt originally depending upon ecclesiastical possessions. On the Cotswold Hills, above Broadway, is an isolated island of Worcestershire, surrounded on all sides by Gloucestershire, in the shape of the parish of Cutsdean. This chapelry was given to the Church of Worcester by Offa, King of the Mercians, and was attached to the parish of Bredon, hence its connection with a shire with which it has no geographical relations.

From the camp the hill may be explored in different directions. One of the finest walks is to Grafton, a tiny village buried in a combe on the side of the hill, the favourite resort of the modern poet of Arden. This is distant about a mile and a half from Beckford Station, where the train may be taken. Or the hill may be descended by Elmley Castle on the northern aspect, though this is somewhat far removed from railways. The village of Elmley, prior to the Conquest, belonged, like other parts of the same district, to the Church of Worcester, and its early history is given by Hemingus, a monk of Worcester, who says that "Britegus, bishop of Worcester, gave the village of Elmley to a certain favourite servant of his: but Livingus, bishop of this see, restored it, by proving

it to be unjustly severed from the monastery; however, by the intreaties of his friends, he gave the same to *Angelricus Kiu*, one of his own knights, to hold for his life only, and then to return to the monastery, anathematizing whoever should set aside this right: accordingly, after the death of *Kiu*, it was restored to the monastery, and one Withericus was constituted bailiff of the manor; but Robert, steward of the king's household, being the sheriff's brother, by the king's authority, seized upon it, from which time it has been separated from the church." The Robert here alluded to was Robert D'Abitot, whose brother was Urso. This family, whose name still lingers in connection with the names of places in the district, held hereditarily the sheriffship of Worcestershire, and the king, by whose permission the village was taken from the monastery, was none other than William the Conqueror, who was probably not displeased to establish a grateful adherent in such an out of the way and wild part of his dominions. Robert D'Abitot built himself a castle on the side of the hill above the village, hence the name which it now bears. Robert, however, died in disgrace and without leaving any issue, and his castle passed to his brother Urso. From him it passed, as a dowry of his daughter Emelin, to Walter Beauchamp of the Warwick family. After the decay of the Castle of Worcester, that at Elmley seems to have become of considerable importance. During the reign of Stephen it suffered considerably, for its

possessors first declared for their sovereign and subsequently for his opponent the Empress Maud. Edward, the Stout Earl of Warwick, having fallen under attainder in the reign of Henry VII., his castle was dismantled and fell into ruins. In the next reign Leland says of the remains of the castle, "There stondeth now but one tower, and that partly broken. As I went by I saw carts carienge stone thens to amend Pershore Bridge. It is set on the tope of a hill full of wood, and a townelet hard by, and under the ripe of the hill." Nothing remains now but the site, which can be easily identified by the moat which is still perfect. Elmley was given by Henry VIII. to Christopher Savage, and remained in that family until the first quarter of the last century. Mr Salisbury in his "South-East Worcestershire Glossary," says that "of Elmley men the saying is (or was), 'You can always tell (know) a Embley mon by 'is stick.'" It is true that, as a rule, every Elmley man carried (and probably does so now) a stick, which, unlike an ordinary walking-stick, projected six or seven inches upwards above the hand, and generally consisted of an ash sapling. This was probably owing to the fact, that they nearly all were more or less connected with the woods, and had thus opportunities of supplying themselves with such sticks, which they found to be convenient and serviceable; particularly when climbing Bredon Hill. The author has spent many happy hours in the company of Elmley men, whom he always found to be of a

most genial and jovial disposition, and there is lingering in his recollection some faint trace (so faint is it that he scarcely dares to record it) of a tradition connected with Elmley men's sticks. It is something to this effect—that on the day of the battle of Evesham a body of Elmley men marched to that town in support of Prince Edward, and that they were all armed with sticks which they had cut for themselves from the woods; and being on the winning side, they naturally felt from that time some pride in (or as we should say locally, were fritch of) their long sticks. However that may be, Leland, the historian, mentions (as quoted by the late Rev. Hugh Bennett) that "the old Lord Beauchamp, of Helmeley, sent three or four of his sunnes to the battle of Evesham, to help King Henry III. and Prince Edward, again Simon Monteforte and the Barons; and these brether, with their band, did a great feate in vanquishing the hoste of Monteforte."

According to a legend recorded by Nash, Bonner, the celebrated Bishop of London, was born in Elmley, being the illegitimate child of a woman, named Frodsham, by one Savage, a priest in Cheshire. According to another account he was the legitimate son of an obscure person named Boner, and was born at Hanley in Worcestershire. The church at Elmley is mainly Perpendicular, but has been much restored. It contains a rectangular font of the Decorated period, which is supported by four serpents with human faces. Some fragments of old glass in

the windows show the red and white roses united. A coped tombstone, bearing a cross of thirteenth century design, was found under the floor of the building during the restoration, and is now preserved within the walls. There is a fine alabaster tomb, which bears the recumbent effigies of E. Savage and his wife in the costume of the period—1631—and at their feet kneel figures of their children, two boys and two girls. There is a cenotaph to the memory of Thomas, first Earl of Coventry, who died in 1699, and is represented in the court dress of the time of William III. A sun-dial in the churchyard bears the arms of the family of Savage, so long associated with the place.

Bredon village is a place of considerable antiquity, a monastery having been founded there in 716 by Eanulf, grandfather to Offa, and dedicated to St Peter, according to Nash. Up to at least 841 this house existed as an independent foundation, under its own abbot, but before the Conquest it had been handed over to Worcester, probably in 964, when it was included by King Edgar in the hundred of Oswaldstow, which he granted to the church of Worcester. It possessed several chapelries and amongst them that of Cutsdean to which allusion has already been made. "*Bredon* in *Worcestershire*," says Leland, "a great sparkelid uplandishe Toune, stondithe on the lifte Ripe of *Severne* aboute the midle way betwixt *Persore* and *Theokesbiry*, and a greate Hille caullid *Bredon* lyethe by the Town flat Este, and

almoste in the Botom of it lyethe *Elmeley* Castle as clyving on the Hill a 2. Mils from *Bredon* Toune, and under lyethe the Vale of *Eovesham*, Peradventur here was the noble Monastery of *Bredon* that *Bede* speakethe of. The Soyle of Bredon is not wooddy. *Bredon* and also *Cleve* belongithe to the Bysshope of *Wurcestar*." The church is a building of very great interest, possessing a Norman nave and fine Norman doorways on the north, south and west. Over the porch on the north side is a parvise. The encaustic tiles, adorned with armorial bearings, in the steps leading up to the communion-table, are assigned to the early fourteenth century. In the chancel is a black marble tomb beneath which rest the remains of Dr Prideaux, who was ejected from the Bishopric of Worcester and died in 1650. It bears the inscription: "Johannes Prideaux, Devoniensis, A.D. 1578 Sept. 17 natus pago obscuro sed ingenuis parentibus; Oxoniae in collegio Exoniensi primum socius deinde rector fuit electus. Quem locum per annos fere 30 tenuit. Professoris regii in theologia in eadem celeberrima academia assecutus est dignitatem. Principi Henrico, regibus Jacobo et Carolo erat a sacris. A quorum ultimo ad episcopatum Wigorn. fuit evectus. Electus Novemb. 22, consecratus Westmonasterii, Decemb. 19, 1641: Mortem obiit Julii 29, A.D. 1650, aetatis 72." "In the civil wars," says Nash, "his bishoprick was sequestered, and he retired to Breedon to his son-in-law, Webb. He was allowed only 4s. 6d. a week

for his support. In this distress, which he always bore with chearfulness and good humour, he was obliged to sell his books and furniture in order to procure the necessaries of life. One day, going along the village with something under his gown, he was asked by a neighbour, what he had got there? He replied, he was become an ostrich, and forced to live upon iron; at the same time, shewing some old iron which he was going to sell at the blacksmith's to enable himself to buy a dinner." The south aisle of the church, which is of the early English period, formed the Mitton chapel, and has a piscina and recessed tombs. There is a slab bearing a thorny crucifix, above which under canopies are two heads, the dexter being that of a man, the sinister of a woman. There is a canopied tomb of renaissance character to G. Reed (ob. 1610) his wife and children. Perhaps even of equal interest with the church is the magnificent tithe-barn of fourteenth century work, which stands not far off, and takes a foremost place amongst the many fine examples of that class which are to be found in different parts of the country. It is almost like a church inside being divided into a central portion and aisles by rows of great wooden pillars. It has two porches, over one of which there is a chamber with a chimney of contemporary date. This parvise, if the term may be used, was doubtless intended for the accommodation of the person responsible for the contents of the barn. This fine barn recalls to one's mind the description of another of the same kind, but in a

different part of the country, which is given by Mr Thomas Hardy, in "Far from the Madding Crowd." "It not only emulated the form of the neighbouring church of the parish, but vied with it in antiquity. The vast porches at the sides, lofty enough to admit a waggon laden to its highest with corn in the sheaf, were spanned by heavy-pointed arches of stone, broadly and boldly cut, whose very simplicity was the origin of a grandeur not apparent in erections where more ornament has been attempted. The dusky, filmed, chestnut roof, braced and tied in by huge collars, curves and diagonals, was far nobler in design, because more wealthy in material, than nine-tenths of those in our modern churches. Along each side wall was a range of striding buttresses, throwing deep shadows on the spaces between them, which were perforated by lancet openings, combining in their proportions the precise requirements both of beauty and ventilation."

Overbury is a village also on the side of Bredon Hill. The court has belonged to the Martin family since 1723, when the property was purchased by John Martin, a London banker. The house which he built was destroyed by fire, and the present edifice is of more recent date and replaces it. There are some very fine trees in the park. The church contains a good deal of Norman work, the nave of an edifice of this period with its clerestory windows being included within the later Decorated building. The most interesting feature in

the church is the font, which is also Norman, though it stands upon a Decorated base. It has four faces, one of which represents a bishop holding a crozier in either hand. As this is restored, one is at first led to suppose that an over-zealous stone-mason has been tempted to make both sides of the bishop symmetrical. This is, however, not the case, for the design is original, and represents a prelate who for a time held both the sees of Worcester and Hereford. The portion of the hill above Overbury is known as Conderton Hill, and on its side is a small camp generally attributed to Danish hands. On the side of the hill is also a small castellated building, which is a kind of summer-house attached to the court. Not far off from this is a rather pretty little Catholic church belonging to the Benedictine order.

In this part of the hill are several stone-quarries, of one amongst which Nash narrates a tale which has been told of other quarries in different parts of England. "In the quarry adjoining to Kemerton," he says, "in the middle of a free-stone block, about a yard square, which the masons were sawing to make a cornice for Lord Coventry's house at Croome, Benjamin and Robert Stanley, in the year 1757, found a toad of a very large size; the nidus in which it was lodged, they said (for they are both now alive, and, being men of character, I have no reason to doubt their veracity), was hard and polished like the inside of an oyster-shell; it lived for seven or eight hours, and might have

lived much longer if the boys assisting at the quarries had not killed it. This stone was found 20 feet under ground, and the toad was found near the middle of it, not less than 26 inches from the nearest external surface of the stone." Those curious in such matters will find a full consideration of these tales of toads found in the centres of stones in the late Frank Buckland's "Curiosities of Natural History."

Beckford, where there is a railway station, is situated on a little stream known as the river Carant. There was probably a Saxon monastery here before the year 803. In the reign of Henry the First, at any rate, the manor and that of Ashton-under-Hill were given by Rabell Camerarius to the priory of St Barbe, in Auge, Normandy. At the dissolution of the alien priories, the property here was granted to Sir John Cheyney. Subsequently it reverted to the Crown, and for a time belonged to Eton, and afterwards to Fotheringay College. At a later period the property came into the hands of the family of Wakeman, with whom it remained for many years. The restored Elizabethan mansion in the village was the seat of this family. The church has many Norman portions, the Perpendicular, pinnacled and embattled central tower having its western arch of the Norman period. The north door is also Norman, and the arch is of three orders. The tympanum is a curious piece of carving, representing a cross pattée over the sinister arm of which is a bird, whilst over the dexter is a circular figure, perhaps intended to

represent the sun. Below are two quadrupeds, it is impossible to say of what kind, in a rampant attitude. Attached to the court is a wonderful avenue of box trees, 460 feet long and 30 feet in height, which it is supposed must have been growing for at least four hundred years.

INDEX

A

Aethelberht, St. King, 108, 134; so-called "Chasse," 147
Aethelstan, King, 109
Alan, Prior of Tewkesbury, 178
Anne's Well, St, 5, 6
Aquablanca, Bishop, 122, 131
Arthur, Prince, Chapel, 78
Aubrey, Tale about Siege of Hereford, 118
Audley, Bishop, Chantry, 141

B

Bambury Stone, 1, 219
Beauchamp, Sir J. (tomb), 71
—— Richard, Earl of Warwick, 25, 160
Beckford, 231
Benbow, Admiral, 38
Bennett, Bishop, 145
Berew, Dean, 145
Berthric, King of Wessex, 154
—— of Tewkesbury, 155
Besford Church, 213
Beveré, 50, 58
Birtsmorton, 42
"Bloody Meadow," 45
Bohun, Johanna de (tomb), 142
Bonner, Bishop, 225
Booth, Bishop (tomb), 128
Botany of Malvern Hills, 21
Bray, Sir Reginald, 29
Bredon Hill, 1, 208, 214, 226
—— Village, 226
"Breviary of the Eyes," 9
British Camp, Malvern, 10
Bronsil Castle, 12
Bruce, or Braose, Bishop, 146
Bullingham, Bishop (tomb), 71
Butcher's Row, Hereford, 151
Butler, Author of "Hudibras," 210

C

Cantilupe, Thomas de, 123, 129
Caractacus, 11
Cassy, Sir J., 197
Cathedrals, Worcester, 67
Hereford, 125
Catherine, St, of Ledbury, 102
Catsbury, 2
Chance's Pitch, 10
Chapter-houses, 90
Charlton, Bishop, 133
"Chase" A, 4
Chase End, 4, 14
Clarence, George, Duke of, 25
163, 176
Clifford, Lady de, 81
Cloth-making at Worcester, 64
Clutter's Cave, 12
Cnut, King, 191
Commandery, Worcester, 95; Hereford, 149
Conderton Hill, 230
Coningsby, Sir T., 149
Coronet found at Malvern, 11
Craik, Mrs, 178
Cromwell, letter re Battle of Worcester, 54
Croome Court, 212
Crypt at Worcester, 85; Hereford, 139
Cutsdean, 222
"Cyder," 133

D

D'Abitot, Urso, 51, 223
Deanery, Worcester, 92

INDEX

Deerhurst, History, 191; Church, 195; Communion-table, 198; Saxon Chapel, 198
Defford Common, 212
Denton, Sir Alex., 129
Despenser, Hugh le, Monument, 185
——— Edward, Monument, 186
Dudley, Earl of, 69
Dumbleton Hill, 216
Dunstan, St, 61

E

Ecguin, St, 61
Eckington, 213
Edgar's Tower, 92
Edith, St, 104
Edward, Prince, Escape from Hereford, 114
Elmley Castle, 222

F

Fitz-Hamon, Robert, 156; Chapel, 185
Foley Family, 25, 104
Forests, Worcestershire, 3
Forrest, Dr, 63
Foxe, Bishop, 123

G

Gadbury, 2
Garrick, David, 119, 148
Gauden, Bishop, 62; Tomb, 74
Geology of Malvern Hills, 14
Gilbert de Clare, 4, 13, 25, 113, 160, 161
Giffard, Bishop, 75; Tomb, 81
Glass, Stained, at Malvern, 33; Tewkesbury, 182
Gloves made at Worcester, 65
Grafton, 222
Granary, Ancient, on Bredon Hill, 217
Gullet, The, 12
Gully, Dr, 5
Gwillim, John, 119
Gwynne, Nell, 119

H

Haldingham, Richard of, his Map, 135
Hampden, Bishop, 124
Hangman's Hill, 12
Harold Godwinsson, 111
Hartpury, 2
Hasfield, 2
Hawford Abbot (tomb), 84
Hereford, 105; Meaning of Name, 106; History, 107; Castle, 112; Siege of, 117; Cathedral, 125; College of Vicars' Choral, 138; Crypt, 139; Ladye Arbour, 146; All Saints' Church, 148; St Peter's Church, 149; Black Friars and Preaching Cross, 149; Commandery, 149
Hereford Beacon, The, 11
Hermit's Cave, The, 12
Hoadley, Bishop, 123
Hollybush, The, 12
Holy Well, The, 9
Hooper, Bishop, 62
Horewell, Forest of, 212
Hough, Bishop (tomb), 72
"Hudibras," 210
Huskisson, Mr, 44

I

Ironside, Bishop, 139
Ironworks, Roman, Worcester, 47

J

Jesus Chapel, Worcester Cathedral, 72
John, King (tomb), 77; connection with Tewkesbury, 159

K

Kemerton Camp, 216
Kenchester, 49 10

INDEX

Keynsham Abbey, 159
Keys End, 4, 14
"King and Queen," stones on Bredon Hill, 221
Knottesford, Sir John, 27

L

Ladye Arbour, The, 146
Langland, W., 28
Latimer, Bishop, 61, 63
Laud, Archbishop, Letter to Dean and Chapter of Worcester, 60
Ledbury, 100
Library, Cathedral, Worcester, 88
Limbury, 2
Lind, Madame Jenny, 10
Little Malvern, 38; Priory, 39; Court, 41
Littleton, Judge (tomb), 73
Lloyd, Bishop, 63

M

Magna=Kenchester, 106
Malvern, meaning of name, 23; Seven Malverns, 24; Priory, 29; School, 38; Wells, 38; Little Malvern, 38
—— Hills, Geology, 14; Petrology, 21; Botany, 21.
—— Little, 38
—— Wells, 4
Mammoth, The, 2
Map, Ancient, at Hereford, 135
Margaret, Queen, 163
Matilda, wife of William I., 156
"Mazard Hill," 209
"Miserrimus," 89
Mustard, Tewkesbury, 189
Mythe Tute, The, 190

N

Nanfan family, The, 40, 44
Nesta, daughter of Rhŷs ap Tudor, 158
Newnton, Abbot, William de, 205
North Hill, The, 5

O

Oddo and Doddo, 153, 193, 199, 200
Offa, King, 108, 154
Oldcastle, Sir J. 44
Oldcorn, Father, 63
Orleton, Bishop, 123
Oswald, St, 57, 61
Overbury, 229

P

Painswick, 199
Parr, Leger de, 172
Parry, Gambier, 170
Pembridge, Sir R. (tomb), 127
Pershore, history, 200; Abbey, 203
Petrology of Malvern Hills, 21
Philips, John, 133
Piers, the Plowman, 28
Pitchcroft, 99
Pix Path, The, 8
Preaching Cross, Hereford, 149
Prideaux, Bishop, 227
Priory, Great Malvern, 25
Porcelain, Worcester, 65, 97

R

Raggedstone Hill, The, 13
Red Earl's Dyke, The, 13
Robin's Wood Hill, 2
Russel family, The, 40, 241
Ryce, Sir Gryffyth (tomb), 82

S

Sanctus Bell at Tewkesbury, 182
Sarnhill, 2
Severn Straits, The, 1
Sexwulf, Bishop, 107

INDEX

Shire Ditch, The, 10
Smith, Bishop Miles, 119
"Splendid Shilling, The," 133
Stanbury, Bishop, 145
Stillingfleet, Bishop, 63; Tomb, 73
Stoke-Edith, 104
Strensham, 210
Strickland, H. E., 196
Swinfield, Bishop, 145
Swinyerd's Hill, 12
Synodus Wigornensis, 107

T

Tewkesbury, History, 152; Consecration of Abbey, 158; Battle, 162; Abbey, 166; Chapels, 174; Tombs in Choir, 186; Abbots' lodgings, 189; mustard, 189; old houses, 190; the Mythe Tute, 190
Thomas, St, of Canterbury, 147
—— St, of Hereford, 123, 129
Thorn trees at Malvern Wells, 4
Tiles, Malvern, 32
Tithe-barn, Bredon, 228
'Tom Jones," 209
Tonson, Jacob, 103

U

Upton-on-Severn, 209

V

Vestments, pre- and post-Reformation, 131, 132
Vicars-Choral, College of, at Hereford, 138
Victoria Institute, Worcester, 97
View from Malvern Hills, 8; from Bredon Hill, 214

W

Wakeman Cenotaph, The, 175
Wall, Dr, 65
Walm's Well, 12
Walton, Izaak, wife's tomb, 83
Warwick Chantry at Tewkesbury, 183
Watling Street, 105
Wenlock, Lord, 171
Werstan, St, 25
Westfayling, Bishop, 132
"Wet Sheets, Three Weeks in," 5, 41
White, Worcester architect, 94, 96
"White Cross, The," Hereford, 151
White-leaved Oak, The, 14
Wigornaceaster, 49
Wind's Point, 10
Woad, 190
Wolsey, Cardinal, 14, 43
Woollas Hall, 213
Worcester, History, 46; Battle of, 52; Bishopric, 56; Cloth manufactory, 64; Glove manufacture, 68; Porcelain, 65; Cathedral, 67; Deanery, 92; Churches, 94; Commandery, 95; Guildhall, 96; Victoria Institute, 97; Porcelain Works, 97
—— Beacon, 5, 7
Wulstan, St, 61
Wyatt, architect at Hereford 121
Wyche, The, 8

Printed in Great Britain by Jarrold & Sons, Ltd., Norwich

PRACTICAL HANDBOOKS

THE LITTLE GUIDES

DELIGHTFUL GIFT BOOKS

Pott 8vo, **4s.** *net to* **7s. 6d.** *net*

THE 59 VOLUMES IN THE SERIES ARE:—

Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire
Berkshire
Brittany
Buckinghamshire
Cambridge and Colleges
Cambridgeshire
Channel Islands
Cheshire
Cornwall
Cumberland and Westmoreland
Derbyshire
Devon
Dorset
Durham
English Lakes
Essex
Gloucestershire
Hampshire
Herefordshire
Hertfordshire
Isle of Wight
Kent
Kerry
Lancashire
Leicestershire and Rutland
Lincolnshire
London
Malvern Country
Middlesex
Monmouthshire
Norfolk
Normandy
Northamptonshire
Northumberland
North Wales
Nottinghamshire
Oxford and Colleges
Oxfordshire
Rome
St Paul's Cathedral
Shakespeare's Country
Shropshire
Sicily
Snowdonia
Somerset
South Wales
Staffordshire
Suffolk
Surrey
Sussex
Temple
Warwickshire
Westminster Abbey
Wiltshire
Worcestershire
Yorkshire East Riding
Yorkshire North Riding
Yorkshire West Riding
York (*in preparation*)

METHUEN & CO. LTD
36 ESSEX STREET LONDON W.C.2

THE LITTLE GUIDES

THE main features of these books are (1) a handy and charmi form, (2) numerous illustrations from photographs and b well-known artists, (3) good plans and maps, (4) an adequate b compact presentation of everything that is interesting in the natur features, history, archæology, and architecture of the town district treated.

In those volumes which treat of counties, there is first a gener description of the country—its situation, physical features, flo and fauna, climate, inhabitants, industries, history and archæolog Then follows an account of the chief towns and places of intere in alphabetical order.

The books are not guides in the ordinary sense of the wor They do not give the usual routes for expeditions, informati about hotels, etc., but they contain information which may b sufficient for the ordinary tourist of literary tastes, and they for not only practical handbooks, but delightful gift books.

Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire. By HERBERT W. MACKLI M.A. With 24 Illustrations from Photographs and 2 Maps. 4s. ne

Berkshire. By F. G. BRABANT. With 24 Illustrations by E. H. Ne and from Photographs, and 3 Maps and 3 Plans. *Second Editio* 4s. net.

Buckinghamshire. By E. S. ROSCOE. With 28 Illustrations by F. L Bedford and from Photographs, 2 Maps and 2 Plans. *Third Editio* 4s. net.

Cambridgeshire. By J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A. With 25 Illu trations from Photographs, 3 Maps and a Plan. 4s. net.

Cheshire. By WALTER M. GALLICHAN. With 48 Illustrations b Elizabeth Hartley and from Photographs, 2 Maps and a Plan. *Secon Edition.* 5s. net.

Cornwall. By ARTHUR L. SALMON. With 26 Illustrations by B. C Boulter and from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Fourth Edition.* 4s. ne

Cumberland and Westmoreland. By DANIEL SCOTT. With Illustrations from Photographs, and 2 Maps. 6s. net.

Derbyshire. By J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A. With 32 Illustratio by J. Charles Wall and from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Thi Edition.* 4s. net.

Devon. By S. BARING-GOULD, M.A. With 32 Illustrations and 2 Map *Sixth Edition.* 4s. net.

Dorset. By FRANK R. HEATH. With 33 Illustrations from Phot graphs, 3 Maps and a Plan. *Sixth Edition.* 5s. 6d. net.

Durham. By J. E. HODGKIN. With 32 Illustrations from Photograph 3 Maps and 4 Plans. 4s. net.

Essex. By J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A. With 32 Illustrations fro Photographs, and 2 Maps *Third Edition.* 4s. net.

Gloucestershire. By J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A. With 28 Illu trations from Photographs, and 2 Maps and 4 Plans. *Third Editio* 4s. net.

Hampshire. By J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A. With 28 Illustratio by M. E. Purser and from Photographs, 2 Maps and 2 Plans. *Fourt Edition.* 4s. net.

Herefordshire. By G. W. Wade, D.D., and J. H. Wade, M.A. With 26 Illustrations from Photographs, 2 Maps and 2 Plans. 4s. net.

Hertfordshire. By Herbert W. Tompkins, F.R.Hist.S. With 26 Illustrations by Edmund H. New and from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Second Edition.* 4s. net.

Kent. By J. Charles Cox, LL.D., F.S.A. With 24 Illustrations by F. D. Bedford and from Photographs, 2 Plans and 2 Maps. *Third Edition, Revised.* 4s. net.

Kerry. By C. P. Crane, D.S.O. With 36 Illustrations from Photographs and 2 Maps. *Second Edition, Revised.* 4s. net.

Lancashire. By F. H. Cheetham, F.S.A. With 24 Illustrations and 2 Maps and 2 Plans. 6s. net.

Leicestershire and Rutland. By A. Harvey and V. B. Crowther-Beynon, M.A., F.S.A. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs, and 2 Maps. 4s. net.

Lincolnshire. By J. Charles Cox, LL.D., F.S.A. With 28 Illustrations from Photographs, 2 Maps and 2 Plans. 4s. net.

Middlesex. By John B. Firth. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs and Old Prints, 3 Maps and a Plan. 4s. net.

Monmouthshire. By G. W. Wade, D.D., and J. H. Wade, M.A. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs, 4 Maps and 4 Plans. 4s. net.

Norfolk. By William A. Dutt. With 30 Illustrations by B. C. Boulter and from Photographs, and 3 Maps. *Fifth Edition.* 4s. net.

Northamptonshire. By Wakeling Dry. With 40 Illustrations from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Third Edition.* 4s. net.

Northumberland. By Joseph E. Morris, B.A. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs, 2 Maps and 4 Plans. 5s. net.

Nottinghamshire. By Everard L. Guilford, M.A. With 30 Illustrations and 3 Maps. 4s. net.

Oxfordshire. By F. G. Brabant, M.A. With 28 Illustrations by Edmund H. New and from Photographs, 3 Maps and a Plan. *Third Edition.* 4s. net.

Shropshire. By J. E. Auden, M.A., F.R.Hist.S. With 28 Illustrations from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Third Edition.* 4s. net.

Somerset. By G. W. Wade, D.D., and J. H. Wade, M.A. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs, 2 Maps and 2 Plans. *Sixth Edition.* 4s. net.

Staffordshire. By Charles Masefield. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs, 2 Maps and 2 Plans. *Second Edition.* 4s. net.

Suffolk. By William A. Dutt. With 28 Illustrations by J. Wylie, Frank Southgate, R.B.A., and from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Third Edition.* 4s. net.

Surrey. By J. Charles Cox, LL.D., F.S.A. With 29 Illustrations by Edmund H. New and from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Fourth Edition.* 4s. net.

Sussex. By F. G. Brabant, M.A. With 24 Illustrations by Edmund H. New and from Photographs, 2 Maps and 6 Plans. *Sixth Edition.* 4s. net.

Wales, North. By Alfred T. Story. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Second Edition.* 6s. net.

Wales, South. By G. W. Wade, D.D., and J. H. Wade, M.A. With 32 Illustrations from Photographs, and 2 Maps. 4s. net.

Warwickshire. By J. Charles Cox, LL.D., F.S.A. With 24 Illustrations from Photographs, and 2 Maps and 4 Plans. 4s. net.

Wight, Isle of. By George Clinch, F.S.A.Scot., F.G.S. With Illustrations by F. D. Bedford and from Photographs, 2 Maps a 3 Plans. *Second Edition.* 4s. net.

Wiltshire. By Frank R. Heath. With 32 Illustrations from Phot graphs, 2 Maps and 2 Plans. *Fourth Edition.* 4s. net.

Worcestershire. By F. T. S. Houghton. With 26 Illustrations, 2 Ma and 2 Plans. 6s. net.

York. By Joseph E. Morris, B.A. With Illustrations and Plans. net (*in preparation*).

Yorkshire, East Riding of. By Joseph E. Morris, B.A. Wi 27 Illustrations by R. J. S. Bertram and from Photographs, 2 Ma and 2 Plans. *Second Edition.* 5s. net.

Yorkshire, North Riding of. By Joseph E. Morris, B.A. Wi 26 Illustrations by R. J. S. Bertram and from Photographs, 3 Maps a 7 Plans. *Second Edition.* 4s. net.

Yorkshire, West Riding of. By Joseph E. Morris, B.A. Wi 26 Illustrations, 2 Maps and 7 Plans. *Second Edition.* 7s. 6d. net.

Cambridge and its Colleges. By A. Hamilton Thompson, M. With 23 Illustrations by Edmund H. New, and a Map. *Fif Edition.* 4s. net.

Channel Islands, The. By Ethel E. Bicknell. With 32 Illustratio and 5 Maps. 4s. net.

English Lakes, The. By F. G. Brabant, M.A. With 20 Illustratio by Edmund H. New, 11 Maps and a Plan. *Second Edition.* 6s. ne

London. By George Clinch, F.S.A.Scot., F.G.S. With 32 Illustr tions from Photographs and old Engravings, and a Map. 4s. net.

Malvern Country, The. By Sir Bertram C. A. Windle, D.Sc F.R.S., F.S.A. With 23 Illustrations by Edmund H. New a from Photographs, and a Plan. *Third Edition.* 4s. net.

Oxford and its Colleges. By J. Wells, M.A. With 27 Illustratio by Edmund H. New, 6 Plans and a Map. *Twelfth Edition.* 4s. ne

St Paul's Cathedral. By George Clinch, F.S.A.Scot., F.G. With 30 Illustrations by B. Alcock and from Old Prints, and 3 Plan 4s. net.

Shakespeare's Country. By Sir Bertram C. A. Windle, D.Sc F.R.S., F.S.A. With 25 Illustrations by Edmund H. New and fro Photographs, a Map and a Plan. *Sixth Edition.* 4s. net.

Snowdonia. By F. G. Brabant, M.A. With 24 Illustrations fro Photographs, 3 Maps and 3 Plans. 6s. net.

Temple, The. By Hugh H. L. Bellot, M.A., D.C.L. With 40 Illu trations by Jenny Wylie and from Photographs, and a Plan. *Secon Edition.* 4s. net.

Westminster Abbey. By G. E. Troutbeck. With 41 Illustratio by F. D. Bedford and from Photographs, and a Plan. *Secon Edition.* 4s. net.

FOREIGN

Brittany. By S. Baring-Gould, M.A. With 28 Illustrations by Jenn Wylie and from Photographs, and 3 Maps. *Fourth Edition.* 4s. ne

Normandy. By Cyril Scudamore, M.A. With 40 Illustrations fro Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Second Edition, Revised.* 4s. net.

Rome. By C. G. Ellaby. With 38 Illustrations by B. C. Boulter an from Photographs, and a Map. 4s. net.

Sicily. By F. Hamilton Jackson. With 34 Illustrations by th Author and from Photographs, and 2 Maps. *Second Edition.* 4s. ne

---

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE
CARDS OR SLIPS FROM THIS POCKET

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARY

DA
690
M3W5
1923

Windle, (Sir) Bertram
Coghill Alan
The Malvern country
3d ed.

UTL AT DOWNSVIEW
D RANGE BAY SHLF POS ITEM C
39 14 11 03 08 001 3